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China Mail

ESTABLISHED 1845

No. 25,771 HONG KONG, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 1928. PRICE, \$3.00 Per Month.



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DELTA PIRACY.

STORY OF YESTERDAY'S OUTRAGE.

AN ILL-FATED SHIP.

Half Pirate Gang Reported Killed Or Drowned.

CHIEF ENGINEER OF "SAN NAM HOI" GIVES VIVID ACCOUNT.

Those who were killed when the Hong Kong steamboat "San Nam Hoi" was attacked by pirates in the West River delta yesterday morning have been amply revenged as conservative estimates are that at least half of the gang of thirty have either been killed, drowned, wounded or captured.

The feature of a gallant defence was the single-handed fight waged by Captain N. H. Sparke, who has commanded the vessel for years and is a respected "veteran" on the run. He was conspicuously assisted by the Chief Engineer, Mr. M. F. Houghton.

After Mr. Hugh Conway, the Chief Officer, and two Indian guards had been killed and two Indian guards wounded, Captain Sparke and Mr. Houghton directed their fire with such deadly effect that they drove the desperadoes from the gridded-in portion of the deck and forced them to retire amidstships.

Baffled and defeated, the pirates sought escape in the River where they were met by sampans from the shore. Even then the two defenders continued to shoot to good purpose.

Chinese Merchant Volunteers gave spontaneous assistance from the river bank, cutting off the pirates from landing and using their arms in no uncertain manner.

As is told below, the "San Nam Hoi" has a tragic history of encounters with pirates. On this occasion the officers added another chapter of heroism to what must be a "record" for any one vessel.

GALLANT DEFENCE.

Pakkai (Kongmoon), Yesterday.

It is believed that the piracy on the s.s. "San Nam Hoi" was carried out by men who were formerly employed on the ship and were discharged last month. These men belong to the seamen's unions at Pakkai.

Six pirates are believed to have been killed in a sampan. Steps were taken immediately by the local authorities (who

Chinese flag and is of 722 tons gross. She was attacked in the vicinity of Pakkai, the port of Kongmoon.—British Naval Wireless.

OFFICERS' STORY.

Mr. Conway Shot Early in the Affair.

The determined resistance put up by the two foreign officers who remained, prevented the ship from falling into the hands of pirates.

The third European, Mr. Hugh Conway, Chief Officer of the ship, did not have a chance to put up much of a fight, being shot dead early in the affair.

The "San Nam Hoi" is owned by the Fat Hing S.S. Co. of No. 144, Des Vaux Road West. She left Hong Kong for Kongmoon on Monday night, arriving at Pakkai without incident.

At 9 o'clock yesterday morning, she left Pakkai bound for Kamechuk and Kowkong, further up the West River, before proceeding on the return voyage to Hong Kong. The pirates, who must have boarded the ship at Pakkai, started to attack the bridge a quarter of an hour after the "San Nam Hoi" had left Pakkai and was off the little village of Wongchuen.

The story of the attack was told to a "China Mail" man by Mr. M. F. Houghton, the chief engineer. The ship left Pakkai at 9 a.m., yesterday with the pilot on the bridge, and the Third Engineer, a Chinese, in charge of the engine room.

Mr. Hugh Conway, the Chief Officer, was having a morning stroll outside his cabin on the starboard side of the upper deck, whilst Mr. Houghton was reading in the bunk in his cabin on the port side.

Suddenly Mr. Houghton heard shots being fired on the upper deck, and rushed out of his cabin on to the port side of the deck. As he did so he saw the master of the "San Nam Hoi" (Captain N. H. Sparke) going towards the bridge with a revolver in hand.

Mr. Houghton next looked towards the middle of the ship through the grilles shutting off the bridge and the foreign officers' quarters from the rest of the upper deck. He saw several Chinese running about with revolvers in hand. They were apparently concentrating on attacking the starboard side of the bridge. Mr. Houghton immediately rushed up to the grilles which were still open and pushed them to, thus cutting off access to the port side of the bridge.

The noise made by Mr. Houghton in closing the grilles, brought five pirates round to the port side, and they immediately took pot shots at him with their revolvers.

are appointed by the Canton Government). Eleven suspects were arrested in Min Hoi village and some more in the neighbourhood.

Pirates Jump Overboard.

The attack was made at about 9.30 a.m. to-day (Tuesday). After the Chief Officer and two Indian guards had been killed and two other Indian guards wounded, the pirates failed to secure control of the ship and jumped overboard into the River.

The "San Nam Hoi" flies the

CHINA'S "REDS."

Women Executed At Wuchang.

13 ARRESTS BY POLICE.

Anxiety Of Naval Authorities At Amoy.

Hankow, Yesterday. Police action has been taken at Wuchang the city on the opposite side of the River to Hankow.

Thirteen Communists were arrested in raids, some of the number being women. After a trial, all were summarily shot.—"Hong Kong Evening Post."

Amoy on Qui Vive. A Chinese message from Shanghai says that the Naval authorities, who govern Amoy and a part of Fukien province are exercising precautions as Communist agents are suspected of having entered the territory.

Marines are on duty and a "provincial military headquarters" has been established to keep a lookout and to suppress meetings and propaganda.

VISCOUNT BYNG.

NEW HONOUR CONFERRED BY KING.

London, Yesterday. It is announced in the "London Gazette" that the King has conferred a Viscounty on Baron Byng of Vimy.—Reuter.

The Viscounty of Baron Byng was bestowed in 1926 when he retired from the Governor-Generalship of Canada and the delay in gazetted the honour was due to Baron Byng's refusal to pay the attendant fees. It is understood that these have now been remitted.—Reuter.

REDS IN KOVNO.

MANY ARRESTS FOLLOW DISCOVERY.

Kovno, Yesterday. Many arrests have been made in connection with the discovery of a Communist organisation.—Reuter.

Altogether nine or ten shots were fired at Mr. Houghton, but none of them took effect, the majority of them going through the woodwork above, which showed that the pirates were poor marksmen. The shots were fired at Mr. Houghton from a range of about 15 feet.

However, Mr. Houghton did not relish the idea of stopping a stray bullet, and rushing inside the armour plating erected behind the grilles as an additional precaution, he closed this too.

Then Mr. Houghton hurried back to his cabin and secured his revolver. Returning to the armour plating, Mr. Houghton fired at the pirates through peep holes. He fired altogether some 12 or 13 shots, but could not say if any of them took effect.

In the meantime, there was furious firing on the starboard side of the bridge where the pirates had succeeded in getting beyond both the grilles and armour plating, both of which had not been locked so early in the voyage. Here the pirates fired in all directions, many bullet marks being made on the woodwork which closed in the bridge overhead.

On the starboard side of the ship Captain Sparke, singled-handed, put up a stiff fight against the pirates. He was partly shielded by his own cabin which is built just in front of the chart room and telegraph, and made good use of his cover. He fired repeatedly at the pirates with one hand whilst handling the telegraph with the other.

Suddenly, perhaps due to the heat of the Captain's fire, the pirates began to retreat outside the armour plating and grilles. Mr. Houghton had by this time returned to his cabin to re-load his revolver. When he came out, Captain Sparke asked him for his gun, as the master's own automatic was empty. Mr. Houghton handed over his revolver and Captain Sparke continued firing at the retreating pirates whilst Mr. Houghton closed the mid bridge grilles on the port side thus shutting the bridge deck from the lower one.

This the Chinese quartermaster should have done immediately the trouble started, but instead he jumped through the open grille on to the lower deck and took refuge there.

(Continued on Page 7.)

POPPY DAY.

Nearly \$20,000 Raised Locally.

BRITISH LEGION REPORT.

All Clauses Assist In Splendid Effort.

The British Legion publish the following report from the Poppy Day Sub-Committee, which consisted of Mr. Gordon Leask (Chairman), Mrs. Bond, Mrs. Easterbrook, Mr. J. E. Hancock, Mr. G. W. Sewell, Mr. A. Piercy (Secretary) and Mr. W. Brackenridge (Treasurer).

The Annual collection in aid of Earl Haig's Fund for Disabled Ex-Servicemen was held on Armistice Day and the sum of \$19,835.16 was received, as shown in the following balance sheet.

Receipts.	
Clubs and Associations	\$ 7,776.00
Donations	1,990.00
Street Sales—	
Hong Kong	\$5,044.60
Kowloon	1,583.25
Church Collections (Remembrance Sunday)	488.44
Ships (Mercantile Marine)	328.66
Navy	432.62
Army	2,181.20
Balance of 1926 a/c transferred	53.00
Bank Interest	15.46
Total	\$19,835.16
Purchase of Poppies	704.00
Purchase of Trays	50.00
Purchase of Collecting Boxes	50.00
Posters	85.00
Printing, Stationery and Postages	24.45
Advertising	45.20
Telegrams	15.90
Cost of Cheque Book and Sundries	11.48
Total	\$ 985.98

This left a balance of \$18,852.18 which was remitted home at a special rate kindly given by The Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation together with a sterling cheque for £5, resulting in the sum of \$1944 6s. 0d. being sent to the Headquarters of the Appeal in London.

Although this does not constitute a record, being exceeded in 1924, the result is highly satisfactory considering the existing sacrifices made by the men who fought for us during the Great War.

The large sum of \$7,776 shown under the heading of Clubs and Associations represents donations and the proceeds of Auctions and Fêtes by various organisations to whom we are most grateful.

The Hong Kong Football Association gave its usual help by arranging a Charity Football Match. The total receipts amounted to \$1,814 and the Association kindly gave us the whole sum without deducting any expenses.

At this match the Pipes of The K.O.S.B. played during the interval and the Committee again thank the Commanding Officer and Officers for giving permission for this.

Generous Response. Prominent members of the Community were circulated with a view to obtaining donations and a generous response resulted. It was particularly gratifying to receive contributions from Chinese residents whose help was highly appreciated.

The sales of Poppies in the streets of the Colony has now become an Annual Feature of the Armistice Day Celebrations and the amount collected (\$6,627.88) was most satisfactory. The Committee take opportunity of again thanking those ladies who so kindly assisted and here again we received the ready co-operation of several Chinese ladies whose boxes gave substantial evidence of their enthusiasm.

Sunday Collections. The Sunday before Armistice Day is known as Remembrance Sunday and Collections taken on that day in the Churches of all denominations brought the useful addition of \$488.44 to our funds. Special sermons were also preached.

A new departure this year was

SPY SCARE.

Trial at the Old Bailey.

ABSOLUTE SECRECY.

Sanctioned For Nations Of State.

Rugby, Yesterday. The trial of McCartney and the German student Hansen on charges of espionage was continued at the Central Criminal Court to-day.

Extraordinary precautions to obtain absolute secrecy were taken. For nearly two hours evidence was heard in camera. This procedure, which is very rare in British criminal trials, is sanctioned by a Judge only for reasons of State.

The decision to close the Court to the public was reached after evidence had been given by Major-General Bonham Carter, Director of Staff Duties at the War Office. He emphasised the necessity of not publishing the statements of four witnesses and documents which were exhibited to the Judge, jury, and counsel.

One document included a questionnaire dealing with plans of the Air Force, which had been translated from Russian. The Attorney-General, who is prosecuting, had said yesterday that this document could only have been composed by a group of persons familiar with their subject, such as the War Staff of a foreign Power.

Another document submitted in camera was a report on British tank corps manoeuvres, alleged to have been written by McCartney.—British Wireless Service.

GREAT FIRES.

UNPRECEDENTED SERIES IN WASHINGTON.

INCENDIARISM SUSPECTED.

Washington, Yesterday. The city had its greatest scare in recent years last night when an unprecedented series of fires began at midnight and continued till early in the morning. There were four major conflagrations, interspersed with smaller ones and many false alarms. Calls for assistance were sent by cities near by and ten fire companies from Baltimore made a forty-mile run in time to combat at least two blazes.

The damages are estimated at hundreds of thousands of dollars. A score of firemen were overcome by smoke, but there were no fatalities, at two fires in the business section of the city. Incendiaries are suspected.—Reuter's American Service.

OIL WAR.

"RUSSIAN STOLEN GOODS" BANNED.

ROYAL DUTCH INTENTIONS.

New York, Yesterday. The oil controversy has been carried a stage further by a categorical statement issued by the American spokesman of the Royal Dutch Company declaring that the Royal Dutch Co. intends to fight Standard Oil Co. in any country which the latter ships "Russian stolen goods."—Reuter's American Service.

the placing of Poppies and Collection Boxes on board ships which would be at sea on Armistice Day and the result justified the trouble taken in this connection.

Help From Services. As usual, the services contributed handsomely and apart from the sums shown in the accounts, poppies were supplied to various transports which passed through the Colony and to the 1st Cruiser Squadron; the money collected being remitted direct to London by those concerned.

Turning to the expenditure, the largest item is the Purchase of Poppies. The sum of \$704 may appear high but this is accounted for by the fact that we supplied Poppies to various out-ports (Canton, Amoy, Swatow and Chefoo) and also to transports, ships and 1st Cruiser Squadron as mentioned before. The Army and Navy naturally accounted for a large proportion of our supplies owing to the increased numbers of service men in the Colony. The other items of expenditure are normal and call for no special comment.

The thanks of the Committee are due to Mr. A. Ritchie who kindly audited the accounts.

TO WIND UP.

CANTON ACTION AGAINST UNIONS.

A SWATOW EXAMPLE.

Kwangsi Faction Out For Law and Order.

MARTIAL LAW TO BE RESCINDED AT BOCCA TIGRIS.

Not having been noticed for some time, the Strike Association at Swatow has drawn attention to itself—and has been ordered by the Canton Government to wind-up. No relaxation is apparent in the Canton authorities' vigilance against labour disturbances. Unions have now been forbidden to call meetings.

General Li Chai-sum's Government has made certain decisions which centralise the administration in institutions which support him.

A report is to hand that martial law at Bocca Tigris is to be rescinded as the Canton Government is desirous of removing obstacles in the way of business and shipping.

A TIGHT REIN.

Orders have been given by the Canton branch of the Nationalist Political Council for the winding-up of the Strike Association at Swatow.

The branch Political Council is the highest civil authority in Kwangtung province.

Swatow's strike headquarters came into effect in 1925 when the parent movement began at Canton. The Association recently wrote to the Canton branch Political Council asking it to instruct the local Treasury officials to meet expenditure.

Instead of complying, the Political Council ordered the Association to be closed, as the Canton Association has been disbanded. It should be mentioned that strike activities have been more or less in abeyance at Swatow for some time but the Association still existed.

CANTON LABOUR.

Police Forbid Unions to Call Meetings.

Labour unions in Canton have been forbidden, for the present, to call meetings.

Orders have been given by the Police as part of a campaign to control unruly elements among artisans.

Officials of disbanded unions are trying to reorganise but have met with little success. The "moderate" General Union's prestige is enhanced and more unions have become affiliated to it. "Runners" in political circles are striving for

FLIGHT TO POLE.

COMMANDER BYRD GOING SOUTH.

STARTING IN SEPTEMBER.

Chicago, Yesterday. The Polar aviator, Commander Byrd, is setting out in September on an Antarctic expedition from New York in the ice-ship "Sampson," which is now being fitted up for the Tromsø Norway expedition, which is to comprise 50 to 60 men. They will take 100 dogs with which to establish bases and landing grounds from the Ross ice barrier to within 1,000 miles of the South Pole.

The final flight will be one of 2,000 miles over an icefield believed not to have been previously traversed.

Comdr. Byrd expects to return to United States in June, 1929, but may be compelled to remain in the Antarctic until June 1930.—Reuter's American Service.

ENGAGEMENT.

FINANCIER'S DAUGHTER TO WED REPORTER.

New York, Yesterday. The engagement is announced of Margaret Kahn, daughter of the financier Mr. Otto Kahn, to John Barry Ryan, a 27-year-old newspaper reporter and grandson of the financier, Mr. Thomas Fortune Ryan.—Reuter's American Service.

the support of the disgruntled section of labour.

POWER KEPT.

General Li Chai-sum and Canton Government.

General Li Chai-sum's faction is keeping the power to itself in Canton, in opposition to the Nationalist Government at Nanking.

The branch at Canton of the Political Council at Nanking is normally the highest authority for Kwangtung province. It has decided that—

The provincial Kuomintang is to control Party affairs (this because the city Kuomintang is hostile).

The civil Government is to be the highest authority in the provincial administration.

Bocca Tigris.

According to the "Hong Kong Evening Post," the Canton Government has or is about to withdraw martial law at Bocca Tigris (the entrance to the Canton River) so that shipping can pass at night again, after forbiddance of a good many weeks.

The decision may be due to a desire to co-operate as far as possible with merchants and ship-owners.

Rising up at Nanning?

A report from Wuchow (the port of Kwangsi) says that there has been a rising near Nanning, further up the West River, by elements opposing the Kwangsi military regime which controls both Canton and Wuchow. Reinforcements are stated to have been sent up from Wuchow.

Swatow's Hinterland.

Mystery still surrounds military movements in the Han River basin and the hinterland of Swatow.

From one source it is learned that Kwangsi troops, supporting the Canton Government, have been moving inland in large numbers for operations against rival units and "Reds" outlaws.

River Flotilla.

One section of the Canton River flotilla is believed to be opposed to Admiral Chan Chak, who was appointed by General Li Chai-sum's Government, but no open disaffection is apparent.

Admiral Chan Chak only recently returned to power, after an absence of some years. Previously he did good work against pirates when he commanded the flotilla at Pakkai, the port of Kongmoon.

Loan Rumours.

Given for what it is worth, the following are said to be "terms" offered by the Canton Government through intermediaries for the proposed loan:—

Amount, \$10,000,000; security, the Canton-Hankow Railway (Kwangtung section) and the Canton-Kowloon Railway (Chinese section); and the 2 1/2 per cent. "Washington" surtaxes; interest, 15 per cent. (per annum); price of issue, 98 per cent.; period, twelve months.

The report is interesting for what it is, but it awaits confirmation.

(Continued on Page 7.)

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The following Unclaimed Telegrams are lying in the E. E. Telegraph Co. office, Hong Kong:—
Brachmann, Waldeberg, from Manila.
Budlin, from Oakland.
Exposition, from Idma.
Giraud Kremling, from Hanoi.
Limlimkhean, ca of University, from Penang.
Petrosam, from Tai.

E. A. LEGG,
Superintendent.
Hong Kong, 12th January, 1928.

THE GREAT NORTHERN TELEGRAPH CO., LTD.
OF DENMARK.

The following unclaimed telegrams are lying at the office of the Great Northern Telegraph Company (Limited) of Denmark:—
Soiguard, from Shanghai.
Russell, Kingsclere Hotel, from Shanghai.
Marullo, from Tsingtau.

Gordon Wright, from Newcastle.
Charles Thoms, Thomas Cook and Son, from Rochester, New York.
James Clarke, Thomas Cook and Son, from Boston, Massachusetts.

Clarke, care of Thomas Cook and Son, from Yokohama.
E. V. JESSEN,
Superintendent.
Hong Kong, 5th January, 1928.

PUBLIC AUCTION.



PUBLIC AUCTION.

PARTICULARS & CONDITIONS
of Sale by Public Auction to be held on THURSDAY, the 26th day of January, 1928, at 3 p.m., at the Office of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the Governor, of one Lot of Crown Land at New Kowloon in the Colony of Hong Kong, for a term of 75 years, commencing from 1st July 1898, with the option of renewal at a Crown Rent to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty the King, for one further term of 24 years less three days.

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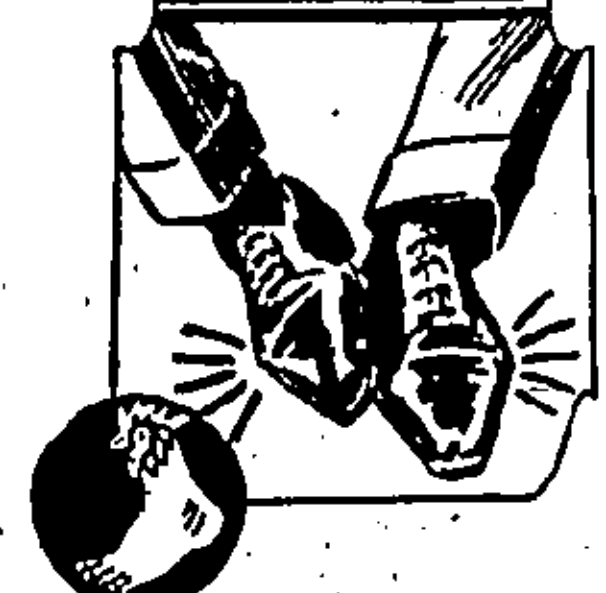
THE CHINA JOURNAL

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Cash must be sent with order to Box No. 519

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NOTICES.

HONG KONG ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY.

BURNS DINNER.

25th January, 1928.

MEMBERS desiring to be present at the above are requested to notify the undersigned as soon as possible.

E. M. BRYDEN,
c/o Lowe, Bingham & Matthews,
Hong Kong, 14th January, 1928.

NOTICE.

Chinese New Year
Holidays.

ON account of the CHINESE NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS our Office will be CLOSED from JANUARY 23rd to 26th inclusive.

THE INTERNATIONAL DRY
CLEANING & DYEING CO.

Hong Kong and Kowloon.

THE HONG KONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY CO., LTD.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the FORTIETH ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in this Company will be held at the Offices of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd., on THURSDAY, 9th February, 1928, at 12.30 p.m. for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with a Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1927. The REGISTER of SHARES of the Company will be CLOSED from THURSDAY, 26th January to THURSDAY, 9th February, both days inclusive, during which period no transfer of shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors.
L. S. GREENHILL,
Secretary.

Hong Kong, 10th January, 1928.

FANLING HUNT
STEEPLECHASES.

SATURDAY, 21st JANUARY,
at 3 p.m.

Admission to Public Enclosure \$1.00. Ladies Free.
Admission to Subscriber's Enclosure on production of badge only. Subscribers can introduce Two Ladies Free and Two Non-members at \$5.00 each.
Cars parked on Racecourse \$5.00 each. Free parking arranged off the course.
Tickets obtainable from Dr. F. Pierce Grove, Alexander Buildings.
SPECIAL TRAINS Return fare: 1st Class \$1.50, 2nd Class 90 cents. Trains leave Kowloon 2.00 p.m. Return 6.00 p.m.

Photography & Art.

Exhibition & Contest,
at Macao.

22nd January to 15th February,
1928.

For particulars address:

THE DIRECTOR,
Port Works Department,
Macao.

THE NEW FRENCH REMEDY.
THERAPION No. 1
THERAPION No. 2
THERAPION No. 3

Mr. Luard's Admiration.

ST. STEPHEN'S.

SPEECH DAY AT GIRLS' SCHOOL.

BISHOP'S ADDRESS.

Owing to the indisposition of Lady Clementi, Mrs. Luard, wife of Major-General C. C. Luard, C.B., C.M.G., distributed the prizes at St. Stephen's Girls' College yesterday. The Rt. Rev. C. R. Duppuy (Bishop of Victoria), Sir Robert Ho Tung, Mr. A. E. Wood (Director of Education), Miss Griffin, Miss Cooper, Mr. Lee Kan-yan, Mrs. Blanchett, Mrs. Finnigan, Dr. W. B. Pearce, Rev. N. V. Halward, Rev. W. T. Waldegrave, and Mrs. Cheung were among those present.

Bishop's Address.

The Bishop of Victoria, in his address, took up the words at the conclusion of the Headmistress's report:—"In faith go forward" and said:

I have been away from this place nine months and the prevailing impression in my mind as I return is that in spite of difficulties—in spite of grave difficulties—substantial progress is being made.

I felt this before I read your school report—when I realised that while I have been away a new Chinese Church has been built at Kowloon, a substantial Church Hall has been erected in Canton and St. Paul's Girls' College has been completed and is in occupation.

Real Difficulties.

And now having listened to your school report I feel the same thing. As Chairman of your College Council I know you have had real difficulties—not a few this past year—Miss Middleton-Smith has had to go home ill and since then no less than three members of the staff have been in hospital. But in spite of these and other difficulties there has been progress as your examination results testify, as the building projects you have in hand testify, as the developments you have before you for improving your scientific equipment testify, and as, what to me is hardly less important than examination results, the growing spirit of social service among you testifies. I class the cultivation of social service very high in any school curriculum. And if today I cast my eyes back over the seven years I have known this school—there has been progress amid difficulties all along the line—amazing progress.

The Challenge.

"In faith go forward" that is the challenge that rings in our ears today.

There is one special piece of work I myself would like to see carried forward at an early date—that is the provision of a permanent building for St. Stephen's Hall as a hostel for women students attending the University. When I was in England I had \$50 (say \$500) given me towards this purpose. The gift by itself can effect nothing but if it calls forth other gifts it will not have been in vain. I remember only a few years back the girls of this college were knocking at the University doors asking for admittance. The doors of the University then were closed to women. Now they are open and a number of old girls from this College represent you there. St. Stephen's Hall has been opened. In a sense it is a child of St. Stephen's Girls' College. It would make this Speech Day memorable indeed if benefactors were to come forward and give a substantial lead for the carrying out of this so important a project. "In faith go forward"—that is the challenge that I would leave ringing in your ears as I sit down.

And now Mrs. Luard in the name of the College Council and of the girls and of all present I know I can offer you a most hearty welcome to our midst and I will ask you kindly to present the cups and certificates.—(Applause).

Before distributing the cups and certificates, Mrs. Luard said that she was very sorry that Lady Clementi would not be with them, as she would very much prefer to hear Lady Clementi speak than to do so herself. However, they were glad to see the news that Lady Clementi was making rapid progress and would soon be quite well again.

Everyone knew, Mrs. Luard continued, what a wonderful personality Miss Middleton-Smith has and was sorry that she had had to go home on account of sickness. She expressed the hope that before long, Miss Middleton-Smith would be able to rejoin the College.

Continuing, the speaker said that she felt the greatest admiration for the work of the girls of St. Stephen's College in teaching their poorer brothers and sisters during the summer months, and also for holding classes for amahs. The girls' visits to hospitals and the prison were acts of kindness which must have done much good to the many unhappy individuals, and "As an official of the Ministering Children's League, I thank

your girls gratefully for contributing over \$1,600 towards our funds. (Applause). I have enjoyed the concert and acting this afternoon, and now I must congratulate the clever pupils for having passed their examinations. I wish you all prosperity and success in your studies," concluded Mrs. Luard.

Headmistress's Report.

The Headmistress in her report after a sympathetic reference to the illness of Lady Clementi and a welcome to Mrs. Luard, said that the Association Schools suffered a great loss in May when Miss Middleton-Smith was ordered home owing to ill-health. We are glad to be able to say that she is already feeling the benefit of the rest and change, and we hope she will soon be quite strong again. The school owes her a great debt of gratitude and it was with no small degree of trepidation that I took up the work after she left. However, supported by a very able Council and a loyal and efficient staff, I am able to report a very satisfactory and happy year's work.

Exam. Results.

The results of the University Examinations show that the standard of work has been well maintained. Both the Matriculation candidates entered for the examination passed, while eight out of the twelve Senior candidates passed, one with distinction in needlework.

Of the seventeen candidates entered for the Junior, twelve passed, one with distinctions in history, Scripture and music, two others with distinctions in music and three with distinctions in needlework. Classes in Chinese from the Kindergarten to Matriculation standard are held in the afternoon under the supervision of Mr. Lo Kwan-shung, assisted by a large Chinese staff; all but one of the University examination candidates having been examined in this subject.

Health and Games.

We were visited by the Inspector of English Schools in October and were helped and stimulated by his kindly criticism. The Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Minett, gave us a satisfactory report.

There has been increased keenness shown by the girls for physical culture and games, and drilling has been introduced into the Upper School. The new tennis court has been built, towards the making of which Mr. Woo Hay-tong most generously made us a gift of \$500. The court has already been much used.

School Growing.

Plans are going forward for the building of part of the extension wing, as we urgently need more class room accommodation in the vernacular side of the school and a science room in St. Stephen's. The demand for the teaching of science is growing and as more of our girls pass on to the University we want to prepare them more adequately for the higher work which they must undertake there. The equipment of a science room is an expensive matter, but I can confidently appeal to the generosity of parents and friends to help us in this matter.

We are planning, at present to build two storeys only, as funds will not permit of more, but as fresh needs arise, so we know that we may count in the future as in the past on the generous support of our many kind friends to supply those needs.

The Awards.

The cups and certificates were distributed to the following candidates:—

Matriculation:—Li Luk-wa (scholarship cup), Tao Lai-ki. Senior:—Phoebe To (scholarship cup and distinction in needlework), Eva Chan, Diana Ho, Irene To, Tso Dam-chow, Lee Mei-yuk, Fanay Shaw, Ellen Tso.

Junior:—Choy Oi-chee (scholarship cup and distinction in history, needlework and Scripture), Chan Yuk-ai (distinction in needlework), Daisy Ho (distinction in music), Kwok Wai-fan (distinction in needlework), Chan Shuk-hang (distinction in music and needlework), Au Yet-hang, Chan Wai-lan, Cheng Mei-hing, Kwok Pui-chee, Lau Pui-yew, Olga Surh, Yeung Yuk-ming.

Essays on Social Service:—Senior, Li Luk-wa; Junior, Esther Lyen.

BEN-HUR

COMING SHORTLY.
Watch For Opening Date

BOYISH SCUFFLE.

MEDICAL EVIDENCE IN STUDENT CASE.

MAGISTRATE'S DECISION.

A local Chinese student was again before the Court yesterday charged with the manslaughter of Ho Kwong-hoi, a pupil of St. Paul's College, who died after a scuffle in the room of the S.C.A.A. in China Building.

Mr. L. D. Turner, for the defence, at the conclusion of the case for the prosecution, asked for a dismissal.

Mr. Roger Edward Lindsell, the Magistrate, considered, however, there was a case to answer. Medical Evidence.

Dr. Anderson said that of the alternatives a fall in the street was likely to cause the death, as the smack as demonstrated could not possibly have that result. A fall on some projecting surface in the street would not necessarily cause lesion of the skin, if the projection were blunt, or sufficiently protected: for example, a coat sleeve or the brim of a hat would be sufficient. It was unlikely that the defendant's fist could raise a swelling five inches by four inches.

If there had been a fall in the street he would expect to find small bruises on other parts of the body, but there might not be any. These bruises might take at least 12 hours to develop.

Bail Altered.

Mr. Turner asked his Worship that there might be a change in the nature of the bail. Defendant's father and friends were not people of wealth, and \$1,000 cash was a very severe financial strain upon them at Chinese New Year. He could offer a bond on a reputable firm for a considerably greater sum.

His Worship fixed bail at \$500 cash, with one or more sureties for the remaining \$500.

The case was adjourned until tomorrow.

POLICE RESERVE.

C.S.P. TO HOLD AN INSPECTION.

LATEST ORDERS.

The following orders have been issued by the Hon. Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe, C.M.G., Captain Superintendent of Police.

A general inspection of the whole Police Reserve by the Hon. Captain Superintendent of Police accompanied by the Hon. Commissioners of Police will take place at the Central Police Station on Tuesday, January 31 at 6.15 p.m. All members are to attend. Dress—Winter Uniform. Belts without frogs. No Cap covers. No truncheons.

Practice Inspection.

A practice inspection of the whole Police Reserve will be held at 5.15 p.m. on Thursday, January 26, Dress—As above. All members of the Police Reserve are to attend.

Chinese Company.

All ranks of the Chinese Company will parade at the Central Police Station on Thursday, January 19 at 6.30 p.m. sharp. Dress—Winter Uniform. Caps without covers. Belts need not be worn. No truncheons.

Flying Squad.

The weekly instructional patrol will start from the Central Police Station as usual at 5.15 p.m. Dress—Winter Uniform. There will be no instructional patrol on January 26.

Sharpshooters' Co.

Revolvers may be drawn from the Commanding Officer's office, Government Laboratory, New Fire Station Building, on any day between 9 and 10 a.m. and 2 and 3 p.m. (Sgd.) G. B. HARTFORD, D.S.P. (R.) Adjutant.

Hong Kong, January 17, 1928.

OPIUM TRAFFIC.

MALAYA'S DIFFICULT TASK DISCUSSED.

GOOD PROGRESS.

In the House of Commons in mail week of Monday Day asked the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies whether he had any information and could report to the House on the steps that had been taken by either the Government of the Straits Settlements or that of British North Borneo for the purpose of controlling the production of drugs or enforcing the reduction in opium smoking?

Mr. Ormsby-Gore: There is no production of drugs in the Straits Settlements or in the State of North Borneo, but in each of those territories there is stringent legislation for the control of the possession, distribution and use of deleterious drugs. As regards opium smoking, I would refer the hon. and gallant Member to the Report of the British Malaya Opium Committee, 1924, copies of which are available in the Library of this House. The policy outlined in that Report is being carried out. While, however, good progress has been made in giving effect to the preliminary measures recommended in the Report, there is little prospect of an effective reduction in the amount of opium so long as unlimited supplies of opium are available in China and continue to be smuggled into the Colony. Action on similar lines is being taken by the Government of the State of North Borneo.

CARPENTER FINED.

ARMS CASES AT KOWLOON MAGISTRACY.

JAIL FOR CHINESE.

Robert Douglas Thompson, chief carpenter of the "President Jefferson," was fined \$250, with an alternative of three months' hard labour, at the Kowloon Magistracy yesterday for the possession of two revolvers and 189 rounds of ammunition.

In the same court two Chinese were sentenced to three years' hard labour for possessing three luger pistols, six magazines and 382 rounds of ammunition. A boatman charged with having 14,000 rounds of Mauser ammunition was remanded.

MILITARY TITLES.

SHOULD THEY BE USED IN CIVILIAN LIFE?

INALIENABLE RIGHT.

Should men who were temporary officers (asks Lt.-Gen. Sir George MacMunn, formerly Commander-in-Chief, Mesopotamia, in an article in the "Daily Mail") use their Army rank as part of their every day style and title?

The question, raised a few days ago by that paper, is being widely discussed.

The first fact to be recognised, says General MacMunn, is that it is the inalienable right of most of those who held his Majesty's commission in any of the Forces of the Crown during the Great War to call themselves by the highest rank to which they were gazetted. Nor is there anything inappropriate in their doing so, attained to very great distinction and to high regimental rank at least and received as a reward orders and decorations also carrying a title which it is their duty to the Crown to use. Many of these officers saw far more desperate and important fighting than was ever seen by many permanent officers of the Army and Navy before the War.

The mere fact that many do not use their war rank is due to a custom which, without any formal agreement by a large body of them, seems to have been adopted instinctively. Possibly in many walks of life the military rank is an inconvenience. Possibly many fighting soldiers—aware that similar rank is of necessity borne by those of the administrative and departmental services, whose duties did not put them in daily danger—disdainfully disregard their rights.

If that is the reason they might remember the story of David when pursuing the raiders from Moab. He left his heavy stuff on the banks of Jordan. Victory gained, with considerable spoil, the fighting troops demanded that only those who shared the danger should share the spoil. "Nay!" said David, in effect, "they that tarry by the stuff shall share alike."

However, at all times that has been the feeling of the man in the trench, and it may account for the forgoing of their title by so many of those who retired to civil life. Also it must be remembered that many men in comparatively subordinate walks of civil life attained by their post-war employers and business heads. In such conditions the use of their rank might not be suitable.

In the general opinion of the regular Services the temporary officers have every right to use their Service rank should they so desire, while when in possession of orders carrying a title it is almost incongruous to drop the concomitant rank. It is only in the case of those highly placed civilians who went to the armies on some civil mission and were given what was practically high "relative rank" that the retention of such rank would be ridiculous. In every other case it is a matter of custom, and those who do elect to use their rank cannot be accused of want of taste.

In the regular forces at the time of Waterloo, however, military and naval rank was often dropped in private life.



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KAMO MARU Saturday, 11th February.
KATORI MARU Saturday, 25th February.
SYDNEY & MELBOURNE via Manila & Ports.
MISHIMA MARU Wednesday, 22nd February.
TANGO MARU Wednesday, 21st March.
BOMBAY via Singapore, Penang & Colombo.
MALACCA MARU Monday, 27th January.
TAMBA MARU Saturday, 11th February.
SOUTH AMERICA (West Coast) via Japan, Honolulu, Los Angeles, Mexico & Panama.
GINYO MARU Monday, 8th February, 1928.
SOUTH AMERICA (East Coast) via Singapore, Cape Town & Ports.
KAMAKURA MARU Thursday, 18th January.
NEW YORK and/or BOSTON via PANAMA.
TATSUNO MARU Friday, 10th February.
LIVERPOOL via Singapore, Colombo, Port Said & Ports.
DELAGOA MARU Tuesday, 7th February.
CALCUTTA via SINGAPORE, PENANG & RANGOON.
CEYLON MARU Sunday, 22nd January.
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MISHIMA MARU Friday, 20th January.
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G. METZINGER 1st Feb.	G. METZINGER 1st Feb.
SPHINX 15th Feb.	SPHINX 15th Feb.
PORTHOS 29th Feb.	PORTHOS 29th Feb.

From Dunkirk, Antwerp, London	For Marseilles
YANG TSE (Cargo) 27th Jan.	ANGERS 31st Jan.
YALOU (Cargo) 26th Feb.	D'ARTAGNAN 14th Feb.
	G. METZINGER 28th Feb.
	SPHINX 13th Mar.
	PORTHOS 27th Mar.

For Shanghai, Japan and North China	For Rotterdam, Hamburg, Dunkirk
YANG TSE (Cargo) 27th Jan.	LT. ST. LOUBERT BIE
YALOU (Cargo) 26th Feb.	(Cargo) 1st week Feb.
	YANG TSE
	(Cargo) 1st week Mar.

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SHIPPING SECTION.

SHIPS' GUARDS. PROTECTED LOOK-OUTS PROVIDED.

With a view to better protection of the ships from piratical attack, the "Tung On" and "Sai On" are now being fitted with armoured-plated lookouts, which allow a full survey of the awning deck aft. The object of these new structures is principally to place the Indian guard on duty in a position to observe any attack which might be made on the wireless installation, or launched from any position other than via the grilles.

CLYDE COMBINE. DUKE ELABORATES HIS SUGGESTION.

In an interview the Duke of Montrose elaborated his suggestion, made at Dalmuir, that there should be a combine of Clyde shipbuilding firms. What he had in mind, his Grace said, was, of course, only a general idea of a combine. It would be impossible to detail at this stage any exact method; it would, however, have to be more than a mere union in name. There would certainly have to be some financial rearrangement, but he did not think it would be necessary for companies to lose their identity. "I have no doubt," his Grace continued, "a workable plan could be devised by financial experts in just the same way as has been done in the Vickers-Armstrong amalgamation, in the railways, and in electrical undertakings. My view is that any union of interests should apply to the Clyde as a whole, and in particular to the Scottish firms. It would be eminently desirable that the proposed amalgamated interests should be controlled by Scottish brains and based on Scottish capital rather than that Clyde companies should become mere appendages to English corporations. I think it would be desirable that any union should combine not only shipbuilding but also engineering and steel making, and if possible, some coal mining, as it would be a distinct advantage to have control under one authority from raw material to the finished product."

Shipowners' Goodwill.
"Before I spoke I had ascertained that some shipbuilders are afraid that, closely connected as they are to certain shipping lines, they might lose the goodwill of these companies if they joined an amalgamation. On the contrary, I have been informed by shipowners that they would support their shipbuilding friends all the more if they joined in an amalgamation, because they feel convinced that union would eliminate waste and thereby enable them to obtain tonnage at a lower cost, while the shipbuilders would be in a position to obtain more satisfactory profits."
"To go on as we are now," his Grace concluded, "in the face of powerful combined competition from south of the border and from abroad, spells certain ruin for Clyde shipbuilding interests."
Local shipbuilders, when asked their views regarding the Duke's proposal, were inclined to think the plan might be all right in theory, but would present difficulties in practice. Trade union officials were cautious as to expressing their opinions. One representative contended that any combination of employers was against the interests of the workers, and the bigger the combine the greater the menace.

"PRAGA" SAILS.

ARMS FOR PEKING GOVERNMENT.

Manila, Yesterday.
The s.s. "Praga" sailed this afternoon with her cargo of munitions and one armoured-car.
Her destination, it is reported, is Newchwang. Six of the crew deserted, but were arrested and shipped out on the "Praya"—Reuters.
[Note: The "Praga" put in at Manila for coal. The cargo of munitions is stated to be destined for the Peking Government.]

A RUM-RUNNER.

PARDON ASKED FOR HEROIC CAPTAIN.

Advices from Washington, D.C., announce that a pardon is being asked for Captain Robert Pamphlet, skipper of the rum-runner "Pescawha," who is now under sentence to serve two years in a federal prison. The facts in the case are these: Captain Pamphlet put to sea from British Columbia with a cargo of liquor. The weather, however, became bad. Proceeding on his course, Captain Pamphlet found the American s.s. "Caoba" in distress. Her crew stood in need of immediate rescue. Captain Pamphlet and his vessel were outside American waters. The "Caoba" was inside the American limits. Here was a problem to stump any man. Captain Pamphlet, however, did not hesitate. Leaving the high sea where he and his vessel were safe, he speeded into American waters and rescued the "Caoba's" crew. As a result of his heroism, he fell into the hands of the U.S. authorities. His plight is due solely to the fact that he obeyed the call of humanity. He did a great and gallant thing. He lived up to the noblest traditions of the sea. In these circumstances, we believe that President Coolidge will best serve the ends of justice and humanity by granting Captain Pamphlet his freedom. It will be but a small return for the American lives he saved.

FATE OF OLD SHIPS.

"MOANA" AS A CURRENT DEFLECTOR.

The fate of old ships is always an interesting subject, and that which has met the "Moana," of the Union Steamship Company of New Zealand, is rather out of the ordinary, for, according to our Sydney contemporary "The Harbour," she has been purchased by the Ottago Harbour Board, who intend to utilise her as a current deflector near the mole at the entrance to the Ottago Heads. It seems that banks have been forming inside the mole owing to there being nothing to break the current, and the board were advised that unless attempts were soon made the channel would develop a series of bends and become extremely awkward for big steamers. Two old ships had previously been employed to control the current, but they eventually sank into the sand and disappeared. The "Moana" was built by Denny's, of Dumbarton, 30 years ago, and was in her day a very popular ship on the Pacific run, subsequently doing good work in the inter-colonial trade. Like the majority of Denny vessels, she had attractive lines, and was one of several successful vessels built at "the Rock" for the Union Steamship Company.

SHIP REPAIRING.

CAMMELL LAIRD'S SECURE LUNARD CONTRACT.

The Cunard liner "Carmania," which arrived in the Mersey on November 28, from London, has entered Messrs. Cammell Laird and Company's yard, to undergo extensive overhaul and alterations to her passenger accommodation, which will make the vessel practically a new ship, for the Birkenhead firm is to carry out the entire survey work on the machinery, boilers and hull and will also install two new funnels on the vessel.
Messrs. Cammell Laird and Co. are also supplying the "Carmania's" sister ship, the "Caronia," with new funnels, and these will be placed on board while the "Caronia" is undergoing repairs and overhaul in one of the Liverpool docks. The "Caronia" will take her next sailing from the Mersey on February 4 next, and the "Carmania" on February 18.

The Ben Line s.s. "Benledi" from Middlesbrough, Antwerp, London, Straits and Philippines is due to arrive here on the 28th inst.

LOCAL SHIPPING.

TO-DAY'S ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES.

THIS MORNING'S LIST.

Nanchang (1,606) British, from Canton, B. & S.—cargo nil.
Newchwang (1,501) British, from Shanghai, Amoy, B. & S.—37 passengers, 460 tons general cargo for Hong Kong, 196 tons general (through).
Suisang (1,933) British, from Sandakan, Jardine's—8 passengers, 2,871 tons general cargo for Hong Kong.
Hulsang (1,985) British, from Sandakan, Jardine's—40 passengers, 4,070 tons general cargo for Hong Kong.
Chenonceaux (3,379) French, from Yokohama, Shanghai, M.M.—154 passengers, 5 tons general cargo Hong Kong, 1,158 tons general (through).
Anhalt (4,047) German, from Bremen, Singapore, Melchers & Co.—525 tons general cargo for Hong Kong, 6,980 tons general (through).
Remo (6,017) Italian, from Yokohama, Shanghai, Dodwell & Co.—34 passengers, 12 tons general cargo for Hong Kong, 6,240 tons general (through).
Prosper (1,377) Norwegian, from Saigon, Fan Yuen Hong—107 passengers, 1,470 tons general cargo for Hong Kong.
Fingal (1,243) Norwegian, from Bangkok, Thoresen & Co.—1,470 tons general cargo for Hong Kong.
Annau Maru (1,317) Japanese, from Bangkok, O.S.K.—2,569 tons general cargo for Hong Kong, 30 tons general (through).
Tak Hing (105) Chinese, from Autau, Fook Hol—37 passengers, 5 tons general cargo for Hong Kong.
Shu Hing (114) Chinese, from Macao, Hong Kong—25 tons general cargo for Hong Kong.
Hoi Ming (832) British, from Foochow, Swatow, Douglas—245 passengers, 280 tons general cargo for Hong Kong.
Hydrangea (561) British, from Swatow, Chui On S.S.—102 passengers, 280 tons general cargo for Hong Kong.
Fook Shing (1,423) British, from Shanghai, Swatow, Jardine's—4 passengers, 216 tons general cargo for Hong Kong, 1,280 tons general (through).
Hang Sang (1,356) British, from Canton, Jardine's—cargo nil.
Departures.
For Shanghai:—Kanchow, Anhalt, Titareem.
For Hongkong:—Menado Maru.
For Manila:—Pres. Lincoln.
For Saigon:—Chenonceaux, Hsin Fook Sing.
For Swatow:—Hang Sang, Sung-shan Maru.
For Canton:—Newchwang, Hsin Lee.
For Bangkok:—Nisshim Maru No. 2.
For Amoy:—Kutsang.
For Autau:—Tak Hing.
For Tsingtao:—Chang Lee.
For Dally:—Mentor.
Clearances.
For Swatow:—Takwa Maru.
For Halphong:—Borneo.
For Tsingtao:—Kojun Maru.
For Manila:—Aki Maru.
For Keelung:—Tokai Maru.
Shipping Abstract.

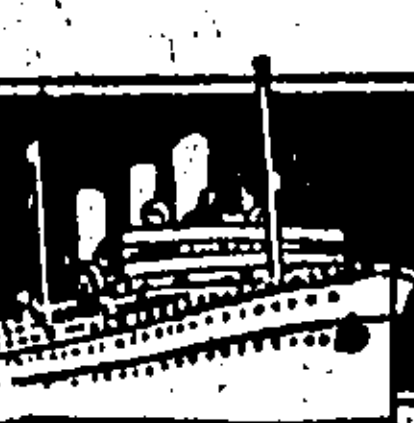
	Arrivals	Departures	Port
British	7	5	21
Japanese	1	4	6
Norwegian	2	0	11
Chinese	2	5	15
Dutch	0	1	5
French	1	1	0
German	1	1	0
American	0	1	0
Italian	1	0	1
Panama	0	0	1
Portuguese	0	0	3
	15	18	68

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STEAMERS	Hong Kong	Shanghai	Kobe	Yokohama	Vancouver
	Leave	Leave	Leave	Leave	Arrive
EMPERESS OF ASIA	Jan. 25	Jan. 28	Jan. 31	Feb. 3	Feb. 12
EMPERESS OF CANADA	Feb. 15	Feb. 18	Feb. 21	Feb. 24	Mar. 4
EMPERESS OF RUSSIA	Mar. 7	Mar. 10	Mar. 13	Mar. 16	Mar. 25
EMPERESS OF ASIA	Mar. 28	Mar. 31	Apr. 3	Apr. 6	Apr. 15
EMPERESS OF CANADA	Apr. 18	Apr. 21	Apr. 24	Apr. 27	May 6
EMPERESS OF RUSSIA	May 9	May 12	May 15	May 18	May 27
EMPERESS OF ASIA	May 30	June 2	June 5	June 8	June 17
EMPERESS OF CANADA	June 20	June 23	June 26	June 29	July 8

(E/Asia and E/Russia call at Nagasaki the day after departure from Shanghai.)

SPECIAL FARES TO EUROPE

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Leave Hong Kong	Arrive Manila	Leave Manila	Arrive Hong Kong
Jan. 20	Jan. 22	EMPERESS OF CANADA	Jan. 22
Feb. 24	Feb. 26	EMPERESS OF RUSSIA	Mar. 3

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SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

LONDON, HAMBURG, ROTTERDAM & ANTWERP—Via Singapore, Colombo, Suez and Port Said.
ATLAS MARU Friday, 3rd February.
RIO DE JANEIRO, SANTOS & BUENOS AIRES—Via Saigon, Singapore, Colombo, Durban & Cape Town.
MONTEVIDEO MARU Friday, 10th February.
BOMBAY—Via Singapore and Colombo.
SUMATRA MARU Saturday, 21st January.
HONOLULU MARU Friday, 3rd February.
* (both calls at Karachi).
SHINGO MARU Tuesday, 7th February.
DURBAN, DELAGOA BAY, BEIRA, DAR-ES-SALAAM, ZANZIBAR AND MOMBASA—Via Singapore and Colombo.
CHICAGO MARU Tuesday, 31st January.
CALCUTTA—Via Singapore, Penang and Rangoon.
SEATTLE MARU Wednesday, 25th January.
TACOMA MARU Saturday, 26th February.
VICTORIA, SEATTLE, TACOMA & VANCOUVER Via Japan Ports.
AFRICA MARU (from Shanghai) Monday, 28th January.
RAIPHONG—Via HOIHOW & PAKHOI.
MENADO MARU Tuesday, 17th January, 10 a.m.
TAIKWA MARU Tuesday, 31st January, 10 a.m.
NEW YORK—Via Japan ports, San Francisco & Panama.
HAVANA MARU Friday, 6th January.
JAPAN PORTS
INDO MARU Thursday, 18th January.
SOURABAYA MARU Friday, 20th January.
BINGO MARU Tuesday, 24th January.
KEROING—Via SWATOW & AMOY.
KAJO MARU Sunday, 22nd Jan., 11 a.m.
HOZAN MARU Sunday, 29th January, 11 a.m.
TAKAO Via SWATOW & AMOY.
DELI MARU Thursday, 26th January, 10 a.m.
TAKAO—Direct.
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S. S.	Tons	From Hongkong About	Destination
DEVANHA	8,155	21st Jan.	Marseilles, London, Antwerp & Hull
DELTA	8,097	27th Jan.	Marseilles & London
MALWA	10,986	14th Feb.	Marseilles, London, Antwerp & Hull
KHYBER	9,114	18th Feb.	Marseilles & London
NELLORE	8,853	25th Feb.	Marseilles & London
MACE DONIA	11,120	3rd Mar.	Marseilles & London
* KHYVA	9,135	10th Mar.	Marseilles, London & Antwerp
KASHMIR	8,085	17th Mar.	Marseilles, London, Antwerp & Hull
KARMALA	9,128	24th Mar.	Marseilles & London
MANVUA	10,946	31st Mar.	Marseilles & London
* KALYAN	9,144	7th Apr.	Marseilles, London & Antwerp
MONGOLIA	16,504	14th Apr.	Marseilles & London
MOREA	10,953	21st Apr.	Marseilles & London
KASHGAR	9,005	15th May	Marseilles, London & Antwerp
MALWA	10,986	26th May	Marseilles & London
DEVANHA	8,155	9th June	Marseilles & London
MACE DONIA	11,120	23rd June	Marseilles & London

* Passengers to Singapore only. Limited accommodation available for 2nd class passengers from Hong Kong to London.
Frequent connection from Port Said for Passengers and Cargo to Constantinople, Piræus, Smyrna and other Levant Ports by steamers of the Khedivial Mail Steamship Co.

BRITISH INDIA-APCAR SAILINGS.

SANTHIA	7,754	28th Jan.	Singapore, Penang & Calcutta
TAKADA	6,949	12th Feb.	Singapore, Penang & Calcutta

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EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN SAILINGS (South)

ARAFURA	6,000	27th Jan.	Manila, Sandakan, Thursday Island, Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney & Melbourne.
TANDA	6,950	2nd Mar.	Melbourne.

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The E. & A. S.S. Co., Ltd., steamers will also call at Shanghai, Hobei, Cebu, Kolambagan, Tawao, Timor, Darwin, or other ports on route as indicated on offers.

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The P. & O. Royal Mail steamers to London via Suez Canal.
The P. & O. Branch Service of steamers to London via the Cape.
The New Zealand Shipping Company's steamers for Southampton and London via Panama Canal.

SAILINGS TO SHANGHAI & JAPAN

TAKADA	6,949	22nd Jan.	Amoy, Moji, Kobe & Osaka
KHYBER	9,114	22nd Jan.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
KHYVA	9,135	3rd Feb.	Shanghai, Moji & Kobe
MACE DONIA	11,120	4th Feb.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
TANDA	6,950	7th Feb.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
KARMALA	9,128	10th Feb.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
* KALYAN	9,144	13th Feb.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
KASHMIR	8,085	18th Feb.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
KALYAN	9,144	18th Feb.	Shanghai, Moji & Kobe
MANVUA	10,946	2nd Mar.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
ST. ALBANS	4,500	6th Mar.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
* LAHORE	5,252	12th Mar.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
MONGOLIA	16,504	17th Mar.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
MOREA	10,953	30th Mar.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
KASHGAR	9,005	13th Apr.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
MALWA	10,986	27th Apr.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
DEVANHA	8,155	11th May	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
MACE DONIA	11,120	25th May	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama

* Cargo only.

All dates are approximate and subject to alteration without notice.

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* Passengers for Rangoon must defray their own Hotel expenses at Singapore while awaiting the on-carrying steamer.

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SAILINGS FROM HONG KONG.

S.S. "CITY OF BEDFORD"		Via Suez Canal	22nd Jan.
S.S. "CITY OF KIMBERLEY"		Via Suez Canal	20th Feb.
S.S. "LYCAON"		Via Suez Canal	9th Mar.
S.S. "CITY OF ADELAIDE"		Via Suez Canal	23rd Mar.
S.S. "RHESUS"		Via Suez Canal	6th Apr.
S.S. "CITY OF DUNKIRK"		Via Suez Canal	20th Apr.

Steamers proceed via Suez Canal or Panama Canal at Owners' Option.

Subject to change without notice.

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COMING TO CHINA.

H.M.S. "CUMBERLAND" AND OTHERS.

LATE NAVAL NEWS.

The first of the five new cruisers of the 1924 programme to be placed in full commission will be the "Cumberland," Captain A. L. Snagge, which was joined by a crew from Chatham Depot at that port on December 15, for service on the China Station. Captain Snagge joined the ship in August, after service as senior officer of the Reserve Fleet at the Nore. The executive officer is Commander H. H. Harwood, formerly Fleet Torpedo Officer in the Mediterranean flag ship. Engineer Commander H. A. Sheridan, who last served afloat in the cruiser "Cambrian," is in charge of the ship's machinery. Of the other cruisers in the same programme the "Berwick" is still in commission with a two-fifths complement, and her date of completing to full crew is uncertain, but she is scheduled to be completed at Devonport by mid-February. The "Cornwall" was commissioned at Devonport with a two-fifths complement on December 6, and should be completed by March 28. The "Suffolk," at Portsmouth, was commissioned for trials on September 21. The "Kent," at Chatham, has not yet begun her trials, and is not due for completion until next May.

H.M.S. "Iroquois."

H.M.S. "Cornflower" is ordered to commission at the Nore on December 29 as an independent command, with the new Portsmouth crew of H.M.S. "Iroquois," surveying vessel, for passage to the China station. The present crew of the "Iroquois" joined her at Hong Kong on June 10, 1925, and have thus already completed their 2 1/2-year commission. The "Cornflower" has been refitted since her return from the Red Sea Division, where she was replaced by the "Dahlia." On her arrival at Hong Kong, the "Cornflower" will pay off and will recommission with the present crew of the "Hollyhock," Commander R. B. T. Miles, for service in China. The "Iroquois" will also pay off and recommission with the new crew from the "Cornflower," and her old crew from the "Hollyhock" for passage to England.

In Boxer Rising.

Captain S. R. Bailey, C.B.E., D.S.O., late Naval Assistant to Lord Beatty at the Admiralty, takes over command of the battleship "Renown." Captain Bailey has been in the Navy since July, 1896, and was specially promoted to lieutenant for services during the war in China in 1900.

Appointments became operative on December 20 of the officers who are going out to Chile to succeed the naval mission. D.S.O. Commander W. L. Jackson, D.S.O. Among them is Lieut-Commander Clayton, who was S.N.O. on the Yangtze.

PASSENGER LISTS.

ARRIVALS.

Passengers arrived in Hong Kong by the s.s. "Aki Maru" from Japan on January 17 were:—
Messrs. R. Yokosaki, J. M. Robert, A. Han, H. Ok, Mr. and Mrs. J. Boo, Messrs. K. Ohtani, K. Takei, Miss Li King-yuen, Messrs. Y. Wada, M. Hashimoto, K. Matsura, A. Nagata, Mrs. S. Kashiwagi, Miss Y. Kashiwagi, Master T. Kashiwagi, Messrs. M. Sugimoto, A. Tanaka, M. Tamada, Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Hitch, Miss A. M. Hitch, Miss A. M. Hitch, Miss R. L. Hitch, and Mr. K. Ohtsuka.

Passengers arrived by the s.s. "President Lincoln" from America and the north were:—

Colonel W. F. Baker, Messrs. J. H. Buckhouse, Chen Yee-chung, Chow Tsan, Miss Cheung Woon-ting, Mr. and Mrs. Ching Lum, Messrs. H. Eddo, Foo Ping-yee, Fung Chee-yu, M. J. Heller, Dr. and Mrs. J. L. Hydrick, Messrs. Ho Look-poo, Ho Ching-wen, Han Show-yang, Mr. and Mrs. Kum Yook-sing, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Kelly, Mr. Lum Tien-mu, Mr. and Mrs. Liang T. Kai, Messrs. Lee Chin-pu, Lee A. Park, Lee Tung-sing, Lee Chi-sun, Lee A'Poo, Miss Lee Bing, Master Lee Poi-yook, Dr. J. J. van Lonkhuyzen, Mrs. J. L. McLay, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Proulx, Messrs. Sun Hoi-dun, Tung Hok-sung, Tung Chai-nam, Tsing Yin, Tsang Cheung-hing, Tsai Lung-mak, Wang Tuck-yin, Mr. and Mrs. Wong Yip, Messrs. W. Wright, Wu Wing-sun, Yung Hin-suen, Yung Hin-lun, Young Ching-hin, Yuen Ching, Mr. and Mrs. Yoshimoto, Mrs. J. W. Cohen, Master J. W. Cohen, Jr., Mr. M. Delphino, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Elder, Miss P. Gloria, Mrs. R. W. Gruelick, Messrs. H. F. Honerlah, T. Koyama, Mrs. M. Ladow, Messrs. B. Manghamal, D. G. Maxwell, Mrs. M. McLeod, Mr. A. H. Raymond, Mrs. J. P. O'Connor, and Miss J. Schuck.

DEPARTURES.

Passengers departed from Hong Kong by the s.s. "Chenonceaux" on January 17 were:—

Messrs. T. P. Cecchano, Rizza, Rev. Father Men, Messrs. R. L. Vessier, G. A. Vessier, F. M. Gierst, Rev. Father M. Pita, Mr. J. Volasco, Rev. E. G. Donchue, and Mr. R. R. de Villa.

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

SAILINGS SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

Destination	Steamer	Sailing
T'iau via Swatow & Shai	YATSHING	Wed., 25th Jan., at 7 a.m.
T'iau via Swatow & Shai	FOOSHING	Sun., 28th Jan., at 7 a.m.
T'iau via Swatow & Shai	KWONGSANG	Wed., 1st Feb., at 7 a.m.
T'iau via Swatow & Shai	CHAKSANG	Sun., 5th Feb., at 7 a.m.
Osaka v. Amoy, Moji & Kobe	FOOKSANG	Mon., 13th Feb., at 7 a.m.
Osaka v. Amoy, Shanghai, Moji & Kobe	LAISANG	Sun., 20th Jan., at 7 a.m.
Canton	FOOSHING	Thurs., 19th Feb., at 4 a.m.
Canton	KWONGSANG	Wed., 25th Jan., at 9 a.m.
Straits and Calcutta	NAMSANG	Wed., 1st Feb., at 3 p.m.
Straits and Calcutta	KUMSANG	Tues., 7th Feb., at 3 p.m.
Sandakan	HINSANG	Wed., 25th Jan., at 3 p.m.

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S.S. "WEST MOMENTUM" 29th January.

FOR MANILA, ILOILO & CEBU.

S.S. "WEST NIGER" 24th January.

S.S. "OAKRIDGE" 8th February.

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TREASURE TROVE.

ORIGIN OF HOARD A MYSTERY.

During harbour dredging operations at Ancona, workmen were surprised on Nov. 21 to see strange scintillations under the water, and then to find several gold coins in the mud in their buckets. Continued hauls revealed what promises to be a substantial, and at the same time inexplicable, treasure trove. So far about one hundred pieces have been found. The money, which is in good condition, is about the size of an English florin and there are Seventeenth and Eighteenth Century currencies. Some are inscribed "Belgrade" and others "Republic of Nuremberg." The news of the find has spread like wild-fire at Ancona, causing the greatest excitement, and several pieces vanished before the Government authorities could regulate and control the treasure hunt operations, which are now in full activity. The origin of the hoard is a mystery. At one time that area of the harbour was dry land and the site of the vanished church of Santa Lucia, and there is an uncertain record that a vessel was sunk there at a later date when the territory was submerged. There is also a cove known to have been haunted by corsairs in days past, but as yet it is not known which is the source of the new-found gold, which, it is authoritatively stated, shows evidence of being likely to prove a handsome haul.

MOVEMENTS OF STEAMERS.

The B. I. s.s. "Takada" left Singapore for this port on January 13 at p.m., and is due here on January 20 at a.m.

The P. & O. s.s. "Devanha" left Shanghai for this port yesterday at 4 p.m. with the Mails, and is due here on January 20 at about 6 a.m.

The C.P.S. R.M.S. "Empress of Canada" arrived at Shanghai on January 16 at 7.30 p.m. left Shanghai yesterday at 8 a.m., and is due at Hong Kong to-morrow at 11 a.m. She will leave for Manila on January 20 at 5 p.m.

The P. & O. s.s. "Khyber" left Singapore for this port on January 16 at 4 p.m., with the outward English Mails, and is due here on January 21 at about 4 p.m.

The C.P.S. R.M.S. "Empress of Russia" left Yokohama for Vancouver on January 13 at 5 p.m., and is due at Vancouver on January 22.

The C.P.S. R.M.S. "Empress of Asia" (Capt. A. J. Hadley, R.N.R.) will leave here for Victoria and Vancouver, B.C., via Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe and Yokohama at noon on January 25.

The C.P.S. R.M.S. "Empress of Australia" arrived Bombay on January 10 at 6.30 a.m. She is due at Hong Kong on February 10 at 8 a.m.

CONSIGNEES' NOTICE.

Consignees of Cargo ex s.s. "City of Calcutta" are reminded to take delivery of their goods which will be subject to rent after January 23.



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Pres. Madison Feb. 8th.

Pres. Jackson Feb. 22nd.

Pres. McKinley Mar. 7th.

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Pres. Van Buren Feb. 12th 8 a.m.

Pres. Hayes Feb. 26th 6 a.m.

Pres. Polk Mar. 11th 6 a.m.

Pres. Adams Mar. 25th 8 a.m.

Pres. Garfield Apr. 9th 8 a.m.

To MANILA

Pres. Cleveland Jan. 23rd 6 p.m.

Pres. Wilson Jan. 29th 6 a.m.

Pres. Madison Jan. 24th 6 a.m.

Pres. Pierce Feb. 6th 6 p.m.

Pres. Van Buren Feb. 12th 8 a.m.

Pres. Jackson Feb. 14th 6 p.m.

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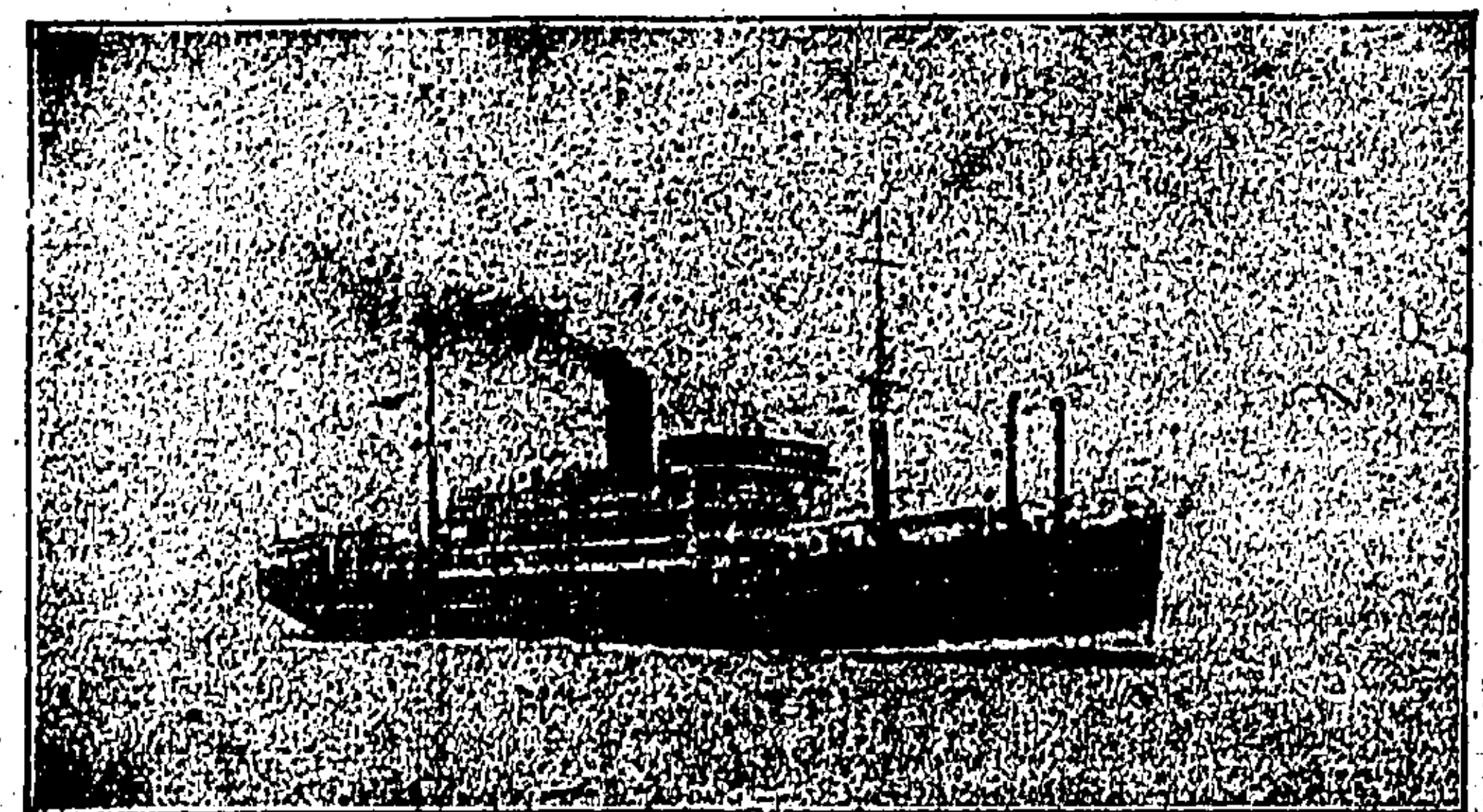
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Hong Kong, Wednesday, Jan. 18, 1928.

"WONDERFUL"

Amid the spate of mental
pabulum in yesterday's cables,
ranging from the Indian loan,
the Pan-American Conference,
banishments of Trotsky & Co., a
new Soviet Ambassador to Italy,
and so forth, it is indeed cheering
to find that the world's purveyor
of news—Reuter—does at times
provide a picture worthy of a gilt-
edged frame. No more interest-
ing pen-story has come over the
wires for some time than the ac-
count of the interview with Cor-
poral Donald Duncan, of the Royal
Marines, who made a name for
himself in China for his boxing
prowess. Opening with a sly tilt
at the Americans, who have made
boxing the most popular sport in
Shanghai, at which "they think
nobody in the world can beat
them," Donald pays them the
graceful compliment of being
"good sports" and of "treating
him well" in his various appear-
ances in the ring. His allusion to
the absence of barracking will be
appreciated by sportsmen of
every nationality, whilst a smile
will be raised by his allusion to a
leader in a Shanghai paper on the
subject of his second fight with
an American. The happiest
touch of all, of course, is his men-
tion of Major-General Duncan's
congratulations and his whispered
"Namesakes."

In his own naive way Corporal
Donald Duncan may be said to
have done more for international
concord, particularly in regard to
our American cousins, than tones
of Notes between diplomats. His
impressions of the Americans in
Shanghai must go far to give a
stimulus to international sport in
that and other centres in the Far

East. And he has given practical
testimony to the fact that sport is
always a great healer of inter-
national differences and pre-
judices. A true sportsman will
invariably cheer a good loser as
well as a plucky winner, heedless
of whether he is a countryman of
his or not. This esprit de corps
in the ring and around the ring
must ever bring people of differ-
ent nations closer together.
Meeting on the common ground of
sport participated in for sport's
sake, they must discover other
attributes in each other that
were not appreciated before. Thus
is the cause of the commonweal
of nations furthered. And so long
as the British Empire can produce
sportsmen of the calibre of Cor-
poral Donald Duncan, who is
always willing to pay a tribute to
"the other fellow," so will the
thorny way of diplomats be made
smoother in discussions of inter-
national moment.

Citizens' Duty.

Very rarely does an independent
witness come forward in a traffic
prosecution in the local Police
Courts. In this connection yester-
day's case, following an incident in
Pedder Street, gave a little encour-
agement. The gentleman who
testified to what he saw—which
did not concern himself—was merely
doing his duty as a citizen. But
how many others are sufficiently
conscientious to come forward and
bear testimony when they have not
personally suffered danger or irri-
tation? The apathy of the Chinese,
for instance, has become proverbial.
The very small number who serve
in the Police Reserve—in ratio to
the population—is eloquent proof
of what has been aptly termed the
"mashed spirit." Many self-respect-
ing Chinese are reluctant even to
be observers of some serious
crime because there is an intuition
which tells them to avoid the Courts.
There are, or there should be, some
non-Chinese residents who are will-
ing to sacrifice some of their time
in assisting to find the truth. We
do not suggest a vindictive cam-
paign against motorists. Yester-
day's traffic case is referred to
merely because it provided the ex-
ception which proves the rule in
Hong Kong. Whenever one comes
across a fellow citizen who makes
a nuisance of himself by flouting
the basic principles of law and the
rudiments of public etiquette, in-
dividual steps should be taken in
the interests of peace and good
order; by doing so, a good example
is set before the Chinese who plead
ignorance.

DEPOSIT RECEIPT STOLEN.

A Chinese shopkeeper of No. 6,
Stanley Street has reported to the
Police that whilst he was on a visit
yesterday to the Yuk Po shop of
Des Vaux Road Central, his pocket
was picked and a deposit receipt
for \$5,400 was stolen.

ALLEGED ROBBER.

MONEY AND BOND LOST
IN STREET.

PEPPER THROWN.

A Chinese charged with having
attacked a man in Connaught Road
West and assisting in robbing him
of \$1,500 in money and two bundles
of Canton National Bonds, appear-
ed before Mr. Justice J. R. Wood
at the Criminal Sessions this morn-
ing.

Prisoner pleaded not guilty. Mr.
Somerset Fitzroy prosecuted for the
Crown.

Mr. Fitzroy said the incident oc-
curred on November 30 last year
when the attacked man was taking
the money and securities to the S.S.
"Charles Hardouin" which was to
convey them to Canton.

When outside 25 Connaught Road
West he was suddenly attacked by
three men. One man knocked him
down and the other two committed
the robbery. One of them thrust
some pepper in his face which was
no doubt intended for his eyes.

They then ran away and their
victim gave chase. During the
hunt two of the men disappeared
and the prisoner was eventually ar-
rested. With the exception of brief
periods when rounding corners the
prisoner was kept in sight all the
time, until he was caught.
The case is proceeding.

IN PYGMIES' HANDS.

BRITISH OFFICER'S BRANDING
ORDEAL.

During my exploration of the
Brazilian jungles (writes Lieut.
Commander Reginald Smith in the
Sunday Graphic) my two com-
panions and I were unwittingly
lured into the jungle fastness of an
unknown tribe of pygmy Indians.

Fierce, savage, hairy little crea-
tures, they stood not more than five
feet high and numbered about a
hundred.

We were alone, and, although
well armed, a fight to us would no
doubt have proved fatal, as the
deadly blow pipe and poisoned dart
were their weapons.

On first meeting them we had
endeavoured to make friends by
giving them presents but these
were accepted in sullen and dis-
trustful silence.

Their village or "maloca" was
situated in the heart of the jungle,
and consisted of sixty or seventy
small palm leaf huts shaped like
beehives and built in a circle. The
chief or witch doctor having given
us an empty hut to live in, we re-
mained within its seclusion and
formulated plans of escape.

Shortly before dark we were
brought some food, but after care-
fully smelling it in an attempt to
define its composition we resorted to
some "iron rations" we carried.

Drum's Beating.

An hour after dark a drum began
to beat from the opposite circle of
huts, and shadowy forms from all
round moved over to the source of
the noise. Someone started to play
a bamboo flute, then another joined
in, and still more, tending to create
a noisy, discordant and monotonous
vamp.

Wild dancing and singing follow-
ed. Our hearts began to quake as
the chief of the horde escorted us
into the middle of the assembly,
where, after a little preliminary
speech-making I was led forward
by the wife of the chief and made
to sit down.

Anxiously my companions watch-
ed, assuring me they would inter-
vene if necessary. Forcing me to
lie flat on the ground, the old hag,
after opening my shirt front, sud-
denly began stabbing me in the
chest with a long, sharp fishbone.
Jumping up, I commenced to ex-
postulate, but the chief came for-
ward and, pointing to a tattooed
design on his hairy chest, made
signs that I was to be so branded.

The situation was delicate—the
pygmies threatening. My com-
panions, appreciating that it would
be wiser to submit to the ceremony,
urged me to stick it; no for five
agonising minutes I lay while with
fishbone and charcoal the old hag
tattooed a grotesque design on my
chest.

What little amusement my com-
panions got from watching me
being branded was short-lived, for
they themselves were in turn sub-
jected to the torture. As every
man, woman and child was so-tat-
toed I gathered we were now mem-
bers of the tribe. But the worst
had yet to come.

Given a Wife!

We were each given a wife!
And, as discretion overcame our
amazement, we forced a smile and
accepted them. Then followed an
exhausting dance by the whole tribe
in the sweltering sun, after which
we thankfully retired to the privacy
of our hut. Our "wives" followed,
and, squatting just outside, lit a
fire and prepared some food.

At night another wild orgy of
dancing took place. Intoxicating
wine was plentiful, and we pre-
tended to drink it freely. Most of
the company soon became drunk,
including our "wives." The night
wore on and one by one they crawl-
ed away to their huts, and when
we got back into our own, our
"wives" were sleeping heavily.

Some half-hour later, when all
was quiet, we stole silently out and
down to our canoe. The moon had
just disappeared. We paddled for
our lives. Two days later
we reached the main river in a state
of physical collapse.

THE UNLUCKY ONE.

PRISON FOR CHINESE
ROBBER.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

The Criminal Sessions opened
this morning before His Honour
Mr. Justice Wood in the Supreme
Court when Tang Fat was arraign-
ed on a charge of assault with
intent to rob. The alleged offence
was committed on November 28
last at 9, Shanghai Street.

Prisoner pleaded not guilty. Mr.
Fitzroy, conducting the case
for the Crown, said that on that
day three men called at the house.

There was a knock on the door and
two came in with an iron bucket
in which were pliers, hammers,
etc. They said they had come to
see to the electrical fittings and to
change some wires. Two entered
and then let in the third, who was
the man before the Court. As
soon as he came in he grasped the
aman, and upon two other women
in the room remonstrating, they
were threatened with daggers.

Amah's Call For Help.

The amah was suddenly released
by one of the men, and she im-
mediately enbotted the door and
rushed into Shanghai Street,
shouting for help. The three men
also rushed out and turned in the
direction of Jordan Road. The
aman then went upstairs again to
see what had happened to the
other occupants of the floor.

When the bucket which the men
were carrying was examined by the
police, went on Mr. Fitzroy, it was
found to contain, in addition to the
hammers and pliers, wood and
wire gags and walnuts which, said
counsel, were apparently to be
used as gags.

The three men were chased by
a constable, and the one in cus-
tody was eventually caught after
throwing away a dagger.

After evidence had been given
by witnesses corroborating Mr.
Fitzroy's statement the prisoner
said he had been falsely accused.
He asserted that he was stopped by
the constable who afterwards pick-
ed up the dagger.

The jury returned a unanimous
verdict of "guilty" without retir-
ing.

The prisoner, who admitted a
previous conviction, was sentenced
to four years' hard labour.

GIRL'S ADVENTURES.

WED. ADRIFF. SHOT, STOWED
AWAY.

Adventures and perils that be-
long to the frontiers of civilisation
have been crowded into a few
brief years by an Abergevenny girl
who has just reached England
from Brazil as a stowaway, dis-
guised as a man.

Violet May Hulbert, aged 22 (by
her marriage, now Mrs. Teixeira),
daughter of a railway platelayer,
was married in Cardiff at the age
of 18 to a Portuguese, who des-
troyed her in Brazil. She says:
"He left me penniless and friend-
less in a country where I did not
know the language. I obtained
work in a laundry, but the heat and
the food upset me, and I had to
enter a hospital on two occasions."

"Then I was workless. For days
I lived on bananas. I was there
during a state of war, and was
shot twice in the legs while I had
to climb trees for safety. The
house in which I lived was des-
troyed. I had to carry a revolver
and a razor."

At Paranagua.

"In a wine shop at Paranagua I
heard English spoken behind a
partition. There also I saw a
vessel in dock flying the Union
Jack, so I determined to chance my
arm. Dressed as a male member
of the crew I stowed in the fore-clo
for 17 days."

"At last I was brought before
the captain, to whom I told my
plight. He treated me kindly and
brought me to Southampton."

The ship on which she returned
was the Straz. At Las Palmas, the
women provided her with clothing
and subscribed £22.

FAIR AND BRAVE!

ALONE AMONG 200 GRAVE
SOLICITORS.

Woman has invaded yet another
haunt long sacred to man. One
young woman, good looking, ele-
gant, a cigarette in her mouth, and
the midday newspaper in her
hands, sat in the famous tiled
smokingroom of the Law Society,
in Chancery Lane, London, one of
the finest rooms of its kind. She
was alone and undisturbed among
the 200 grave solicitors who
crowded the luncheon room at the
luncheon-hour on October 14 last,
says the "Daily Express."

She was a solicitor, a member of
the Law Society, and the daughter
of a prominent city solicitor, also
a member. There has been for
some time a special room for
woman members of the Law
Society.

It is a small room downstairs,
excellent in its way no doubt, but
in spirit a mere annexe of the
building. Woman solicitors have
usually assembled here since they
have been admitted into the pro-
fession.
The revolt has now come.

P'RAPS-P'RAPS NOT!

The ice cream season tried hard
to get an innings to-day.

Pilot (to nervous passenger):
"Don't worry, sir; this aeroplane is
the safest on earth!"

A greyhound trainer has been
dismissed for giving a dog port
wine. Apparently the animal saw
two hares and chased the wrong
one.

"Reginald, I thought I told you
not to play with your soldiers on
Sunday!"
"That's all right, mummy. On
Sunday I call them the Salvation
Army."

Manager of Accident Insurance
Co.: "So you're positive that her
accident was faked?"

Investigator: "Sure! She said
she caught her heel in the hem of
her dress."

The Stranger: "What's that big
building?"
His Guide: "That's a prison."
"Tremendous! One could get
lost in it."

"People do. It takes some of
them years to find the way out."

Six-year-old Billy was exasperat-
ed with the almost continuous
squalling of his baby brother. "I
bet I know why he came from
heaven," Billy mused, "They put
him out."

Two Irishmen, one accompanied
by his wife, met on the street. Said
Pat to Mike: "Let me present my
wife."

"No, thank ye," replied Mike.
"O! got one of me own."

She (dreamily): "Oh, George, do
you remember, it was on just such
a night as this that we met!"

George (married to her): "Yes,
rotten night, ain't it?"

It so happened that the travelling
pianist was passing the hall in an
English country town, in which he
intended giving a performance that
evening. He thought he would go
in and see that everything was
ready.

"I'm playing here to-night," he
remarked to the caretaker. "Piano's
all right, I suppose?"

"Well, yes," replied the other
slowly; "but she's in the cellar full
of books. We can easily have her
ready for to-night, though."

Then he raised his voice, and
shouted:—

"Alice, where's the works o' that
pianer?"

Alice's voice floated gently back
from the kitchen—

"Ain't they out in the garden?"

Dentist's Wife: "We must give
the maid a little treat of some sort
on her birthday."

Dentist: All right. I'll extract
some of her teeth free then."

The "Arkansas Gazette" thinks
that the stress laid on keeping one's
eye on one's ball is probably the
best proof of the Scottish origin of
golf.

Hubby: "I miss the old spittoon
since it's gone."

Wife: "You missed it before—
that's why it's gone."

Old Lady (stopping "double-
deck" has in the pouring rain):
"Any sitting room?"

Cheerful Conductor: "No, ma'am;
but there's bath upstairs."

SI Smith, fresh from the country,
went to the theatre on his first trip
to the city. The trombone player
rendered a long and intricate solo.
SI watched with mouth open! sud-
denly he slapped his knee and said
with glee: "Huh, you can't fool
me. I know the don't swafer it
every time!"

"I have always maintained," de-
clared Charles, "that no two people
on earth think alike."

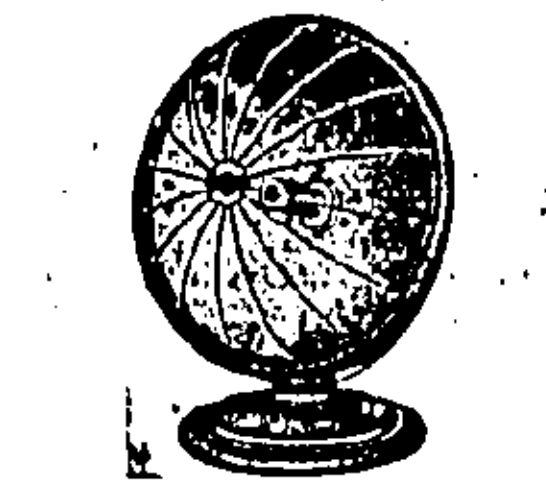
"You'll change your mind," said
his fiancée, "when you look over our
wedding presents."

MYSTERY & ACTION.

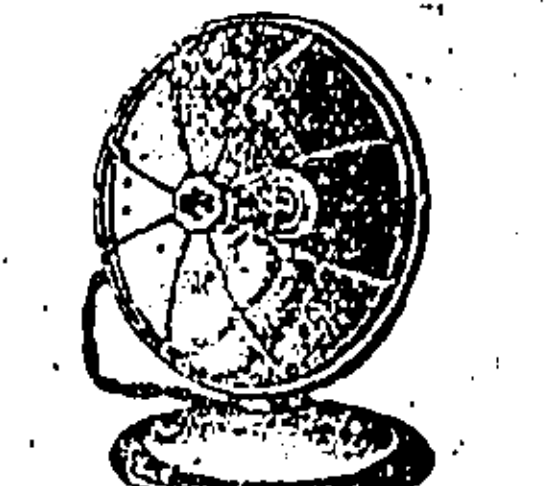
GRIPPING FILM AT THE
QUEEN'S THEATRE.

"Pleasure Buyers," the film new
showing at the Queen's Theatre, is
one all will like for a variety of
reasons. It is a mystery picture
and has to do with the solution of
the problem of who killed a certain
man. But it is a film out of the
usual run, is full of dramatic force,
and the story is cleverly and logi-
cally told. Moreover, the ending is
far from the prosaic; the audience
is held until the last flicker. Irene
Rich and Clive Brook star in the
piece. A love story runs through
it, and this, doubt, its share to
heighten the mystery whilst giving
the whole a delightful air of sus-
pense. A good picture full of ac-
tion.

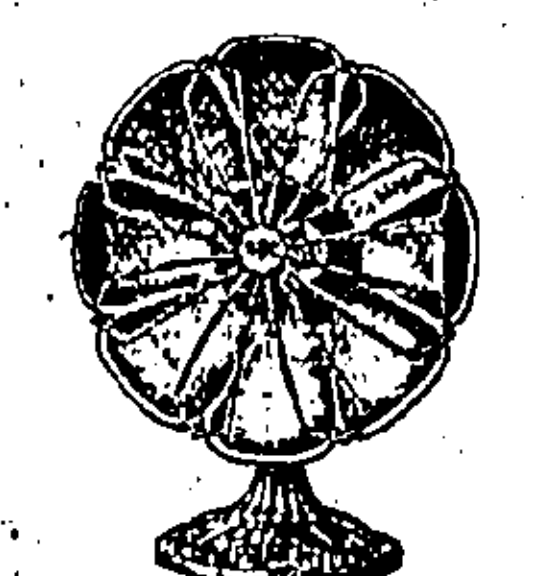
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DELTA PIRACY.

(Continued from Page 1.)

Captain Sparke had fired only three rounds from Mr. Houghton's revolver when the pirates completely retired from the bridge, and were gathered amid-ship. Fearing that the pirates might make another rush, the Captain asked Mr. Houghton to close the armour plating on the starboard side of the bridge.

This Mr. Houghton did whilst the Captain used Mr. Houghton's revolver to cover a possible attack. The pirates, who had apparently lost heart, did not make any attempt to prevent Mr. Houghton from closing the armour plates.

It was then that Captain Sparke and Mr. Houghton were able to breathe freely again and take stock of their surroundings. It was then that they were able to turn their attention for the first time to Mr. Conway who had lain huddled up on a box just inside the armour plating from the beginning of the attack on the bridge. Mr. Conway was already dead when his comrades got to him, he having been hit several times by bullets fired by the pirates.

How Mr. Conway met his death was told by the Chinese quartermaster who was standing near him when he was first hit. This can be kept until later.

To return to Mr. Houghton's story, he said that whilst he and the Captain were attending to Mr. Conway, the cry went up amongst the passengers on the lower deck that the pirates were jumping overboard. To speed the pirates in their departure, blasts were continuously blown on the ship's whistle. After taking to the water, the pirates swam some distance towards shore and then were picked up by sampans which had pushed out from shore.

Mr. Houghton saw ten or twelve pirates climb on to the sampans, and then he went over to the Captain and suggested to him that the ship should be turned so that they could take some shots at the pirates. This was done, and Mr. Houghton fired many shots from a Winchester rifle at the pirates, whilst Captain Sparke used a Greener riot gun. Many shots were observed to hit the sides of the sampans, but it was, of course, impossible to say if any of them took effect amongst the pirates on board, as the latter were taking cover by lying flat on the bottom of the boats.

Simultaneous with this tactics on the part of the officers of the "San Nam Hoi," a detachment of the Merchants' Volunteers from Wongchuen village appeared on the shore and they also fired at the pirates, who were now in a helpless position in the water, being subject to shots from two sides.

Many ducks to escape the bullets, and several were drowned in this way. Those who were on the sampans had no option but to make for shore, where they were rounded up by the volunteers as soon as they got out of the boats. At least 15 of the pirates (the number of whom Mr. Houghton estimated as fully 30 men), were captured in this way.

Mr. Houghton also saw two pirates shot by the volunteers as they got to the shore, and a few dead or wounded were observed to be removed from the sampans by the volunteers, so that practically all the pirates were accounted for in one way or another.

Mr. Houghton was unable to say whether the "San Nam Hoi" or the volunteers were responsible for the casualties amongst the pirates on the sampans. They might have originally been wounded during the fight on board the "San Nam Hoi" and were dragged into the water by their companions when it was decided to leave the ship. However, Mr. Houghton could not say that he actually saw any pirate hit on the ship.

Captain Sparke and Mr. Houghton did not stop firing at the sampans until they got out of range. Then Mr. Houghton proceeded to the stern part of the upper deck to the Indian Guards' quarters to see how they had fared.

Only One Not Hurt.

Altogether there were one Sergeant and five Guards on board the "San Nam Hoi" and of this number Mr. Houghton found only one man was not hurt. He was in the lavatory when the trouble started and very wisely remained in the closet until the pirates left the ship. He was unable to say what happened to his companions.

Just outside the door of the Guards' quarters, Mr. Houghton found one of the Indians lying dead on the deck. He was the man who was on duty at the top of the companion way leading from the lower to the bridge deck, and was the pirates' first victim.

Shot in His Bunk.

The pirates, who had originally gathered on the lower deck, where all the Chinese passengers were quartered, took this Guard by surprise as he was bending to shut the

grille at the top of the companion way. The first shot fired at this Guard entered the top of the head and lodged in the left temple. He was also hit by three other bullets, in the right breast, right side of the abdomen and the right side, respectively. In spite of these terrible wounds, he was able to stagger back to his quarters where he collapsed at the door.

Inside the Guards' quarters, Mr. Houghton found three other Indians lying about, all wounded, one very seriously. He died at 8.55 p.m., and his body was brought to Hong Kong together with that of Mr. Conway. This Indian was shot clean through the abdomen as he was lying in his bunk.

The three wounded Guards in the Guards' quarters had just finished their "chow" and were sitting about chatting when they were taken by surprise by the pirates who mercilessly pumped lead into them. Only one of the Guards was able to snatch up his rifle, but before he could use it, he was hit in the wrist and left thigh simultaneously and collapsed. The third man was hit on the shoulder.

The Sergeant of the Guards, who was looking over the stern of the ship, was hit on the wrist as he was rushing back to the Guards' quarters after the firing of the first shots.

Asked if he thought any of the pirates had been former members of the "San Nam Hoi's" crew, Mr. Houghton said that he did not stop to look at their faces, but he confirmed a rumour that the attack on the ship was more out of revenge than gain, as some time ago there had been trouble over the question of changing the ship's crew, and some of the old crew had threatened to do harm to the commodore, and the Captain. When the pirates left the ship they did not take any loot with them, and none of the passengers on the lower deck had reported being robbed. The ship's cargo, in any case, was not of much value.

Proceeding with his story, Mr. Houghton said that after witnessing the capture of the pirates by the Merchant Volunteers, the "San Nam Hoi" proceeded towards Kam-chuk with its flag reversed and half masted. She continually sounded her whistle as she went trying to attract attention and secure medical assistance for the wounded men.

After rounding the first bend on the river, the "San Nam Hoi" sighted H.M.S. "Faulkner" near the First Cliff. The "San Nam Hoi" gave the usual distress signal of four blasts, to which the "Faulkner" replied. The "San Nam Hoi" then dropped her anchor and waited for the "Faulkner" to come alongside, which she did, also dropping anchor. The "Faulkner" did not have a medical officer on board, but her Commander and some men boarded the "San Nam Hoi" and rendered first aid to the wounded Guards.

Afterwards the "Faulkner" placed an armed party on board the "San Nam Hoi" and escorted her back to Pakkai, where the commodore summoned the local police and Merchant Volunteers to go on board and search the ship.

It is interesting to note, Mr. Houghton said, that before the police would consent to board the "San Nam Hoi" the commodore was forced to sign some formidable looking documents and place the ship's "chop" on them. Mr. Houghton said smilingly that he would not be surprised if when the ship got to Pakkai on the next trip the commodore will receive a bill for "services rendered."

Anyway, after searching all the passengers, the police took two men ashore with them. The whole fight with the pirates on the "San Nam Hoi" only lasted about 20 minutes. Firing ceased at about 9.35 a.m., and a couple of minutes later the pirates started to take to the water off Wongchuen.

Mr. Houghton also gave other reasons for his belief that the attack on the "San Nam Hoi" was revenge against the commodore and the foreign officers. Although the pirates could have easy access to the engine room, he pointed out they did not enter it. The other point was that a man whom the commodore recognised as having formerly been on his staff jumped into the river as the "San Nam Hoi" was passing Plover Island after leaving Wongchuen. This was long before the "San Nam Hoi" sighted the "Faulkner" off First Cliff.

Shots were fired at this man from Winchester rifles, but as the ship was going full speed ahead, Mr. Houghton doubted that the man was hit.

All the pirates, Mr. Houghton said, spoke Cantonese. They did not take any of the passengers or the ship's crew away with them when they left the ship. There was no doubt that they were after the commodore's scalp, for they asked for him several times, but the latter had so effectively hidden himself with the first sign of trouble that he could not be found.

The "San Nam Hoi" reached Hong Kong soon after 8 o'clock this morning and tied up at the Tung On wharf in Connaught Road. The police immediately boarded the vessel and after taking a report of the occurrence from Captain Sparke,

the dead and wounded were removed.

The remains of Mr. Conway and those of the two dead Guards (Sakun Dar and Multra Khan) were removed to the Public Mortuary. The wounded Indians who were removed to the Government Civil Hospital were Ayat Mohamed and Denban Khan.

The Vessel.

The "San Nam Hoi" formerly named the "Nam Hoi," and before that the "Tai On," is a steel screw steamer of 722 tons gross and 427 net. She was built in Hong Kong by the Kwong Hep Laung in 1891 and was engaged by the same firm with 57 N.H.P. The vessel was rebuilt in 1914 by the Kwong Fat firm of Hong Kong.

The owners are the Fat Hing Steamship Company. The vessel, which is registered in Canton, is 172.8 feet in length, with a beam of 35.1 feet and a moulded depth of 10.1 feet.

LONGEST RECORD?

Information About the Ship and Her History.

Pakkai, the port of Kongmoon, is about 76 miles from Hong Kong. Several river steamboats ply between Pakkai and Hong Kong, half the number leaving each port every night on six occasions a week. After entering the River delta, the Kongmoon boats follow the same route as those going up to the West River, and it is necessary, using a landsman's term, to "turn back a little" to get to Pakkai.

Going up from Hong Kong, the ships arrive usually in the morning. One or two each day then go on, up the West River, to Kamchuk and Kowkong, returning to Pakkai in time the same day to sail for Hong Kong.

Bad Choice.

It was on this "subsidiary" voyage that the "San Nam Hoi" was attacked. H.M.S. "Faulkner" is one of several armed launches used specially for anti-piracy and patrol work in the River delta. There are, of course, several gunboats as well, one of which pay periodical calls at Pakkai.

It is strange that the pirates should have chosen such an unsuitable part of the River to launch their attack, as the "Faulkner" was close at hand and, in any event, the "San Nam Hoi" would either have arrived at Kamchuk—a short distance away—or attracted attention by stopping in the waterway.

Recent Experiences.

Several of the Kongmoon steamboats lost their crews at Pakkai in December, shortly after the Reds broke out at Canton. Orders were received by the branch Seamen's Union at Pakkai from the parent union at Canton, calling the crews out. Ultimately it was stated that the instructions were forged.

At any rate, the "San Nam Hoi" came back to Hong Kong with a scratch crew. Some months ago, she had a similar experience, when trouble broke out over the dismissal of a pilot or quartermaster, but ran aground near Whangmoon and had to be docket for repair.

Revenge As Well?

According to Chinese shipping circles, disputes between the owners of Kongmoon steamboats and their former crews have not been settled, as the men who struck emphatically want to get back. There is just a possibility that the pirates were out for revenge as well as loot, as witness the allegation in the Naval wireless that the marauders are suspected of having been former members of the crew, and the "unsuitability" of the place already referred to.

The "San Nam Hoi" can very well claim to have the longest, and most tragic, history of any vessel in Hong Kong and South China, in relation to piracy.

Under Her Old Name.

Formerly it was the "Tai On." The first piracy was successful. On the second occasion, the officers put up a gallant fight. One of their number was lost and a watchman was killed in putting up a stand. Unable to secure control, the pirates set the ship ablaze and many passengers lost their lives when the vessel had burned down to the water's edge. She was salvaged and reconstructed as the "San Nam Hoi." Change of flag was effected after the strike began in 1925.

Under her new name, the ship has had more than one encounter with pirates, and in the present case has worthily upheld a tradition of dogged pluck against odds.

BACK HOME.

SOVIET CONSULS FROM CHINA.

Moscow, Yesterday. Mr. Yanson, the assistant people's commissary of workers and peasants inspection has been appointed people's commissary and justice in place of Kursky. The Russian Consuls from Shanghai, Hankow and Changsha, have arrived in Moscow.—Reuter.

TO WIND UP.

(Continued from page 1.)

CANTON ROBBERIES.

Soldiers for Trains: North River Trouble.

The administration of the Chinese section of the Canton-Kowloon Railway, following the robbery 20 miles east of Canton last week, has requested the Kwangtung Government to provide military guards for all trains and patrols for the whole of the line (about 90 miles long).

Two Skirmishes.

Yunnanese mercenaries under General Fan Shek-sang (the 16th Nationalist Army) have been engaged in two skirmishes near their posts along the North River, in Kwangtung province, one of which lasted over an hour.

Details supplied to Canton headquarters are as follows:—First: 4 robbers captured with 20 rifles, 13 robbers killed. Second: 10 robbers and 30 rifles captured, 10 killed. A number of captives were released. The military had a few wounded.

SLOW PROGRESS.

New Nationalist Government at Nanking.

Slow progress is being made by the supporters of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek in their task of calling the fourth plenary session of the Nationalist Party and forming a new government at Nanking. However, some opposition seems to have been worn down.

Conflicting reports are being issued about the war in the North between the armies of the Peking Government and the Kuomintang, the latter being allies of Nanking.

Unrest is reported from Fukien province, the upper Yangtze River and other zones, but there is no event of great importance in overnight cables from Chinese sources.

GROWING UNPOPULAR.

Wanhien Warlord Meets With Opposition.

Hankow, Jan. 10.

A message from Chungking reports that Marshal Wu Pei-fu, who returned to Wanhien with General Yang Sen on January 1, is stated shortly to be going to Shunching, north of Chungking. General Yang Chun-pang, Commander of the 11th Division of the 20th Army, who had been in detention for some time, was recently shot, and his troops have been placed under the direct control of General Yang Sen, according to the message.

There are signs, the message says, that General Ho Chin-no, Commander of the 4th Division, secretly communicated with General Fan Shao-tseng while General Yang Sen was away from Wanhien. It is due to this that General Yang has hurriedly returned to Wanhien.

The execution of General Yang Chung-pang has caused agitation among his followers, and the newly established bank (?) in Wanhien is unpopular with the citizens. It is said that anti-General Yang feeling is growing in Wanhien.

The message adds that one regiment belonging to General Liu Hsiang which recently proceeded downstream returned to Chungking by land on January 8.—Toho.

SHELVED.

TARIFF RESOLUTION IN U.S. HOUSE.

Washington, Yesterday. The House of Representatives by 183 votes to 164 shelved the Senate's tariff resolution. Since the Representatives alone have authority to initiate tariff legislation unlikely that the question will be reopened this session.—Reuter's American Service.

P.I. 'QUAKE.

400 MILES AWAY FROM MANILA.

An earthquake of about 15 seconds duration was felt at Legaspi, Albay, at 9.50 a.m. on Saturday, January 6, causing panic among the inhabitants who believed that Mayon volcano had begun to erupt, according to word received in Manila. During the past few days Mayon volcano has been omitting smoke, though not in alarming quantities. People residing in the vicinity of the volcano, according to previous reports, have started moving to towns away from the volcano.

The tremor was recorded by the seismographs of the Manila observatory. Weather officials stated that the centre of the earthquake was about 400 kilometres away from Manila, in the Pacific north of Samar. It was not of volcanic origin.

Shadows Before.

COMING EVENTS ANNOUNCED IN THE "MAIL."

To-day—Queen's Theatre: "The Pleasure Buyers." To-day—World Theatre: "The Lucky Lady," 8.10 and 9.15; "Wong Tin Ba" (Chinese Drama), 2.30 and 7.15.

To-day—Star Theatre: "Aloma of South Seas." January 19-21—Queen's Theatre: "The 13th Juror." January 19-21—World's Theatre: "The Desert's Toll."

January 19-21—Star Theatre: "The Gay Deceiver." January 20-21—Star Theatre: The Globe Trotters in "Indecent." January 21—Hong Kong Hotel: Chinese New Year's Eve Carnival.

January 22-24—Queen's Theatre: "Out All Night." January 26—Musical at Helena May Institute, 5.30 p.m.

February 25—Craigengower Cricket Club's annual Bachelors' Dance.

Sports.

To-day—Hockey: H.K.H. Club v. Navy, U.S.R.C. ground, 4.30 p.m. January 19—St. Peter's Church Y.M.C. Whist drive, 8.45 p.m. in St. John's Cathedral Hall.

January 21—China New Year meeting (Fanning Hunt), Kwanti Race Course.

January 28—American lawn tennis tourney (mixed doubles) for members of the Ladies' Recreation Club at E.R.C.

Land Sale.

January 26—Sale by Public Auction of Crown Land at New Kowloon, P.W.D. Offices, 3 p.m.

Meetings.

January 19—H.K.V.D.C. annual meeting, Corps Headquarters.

January 26—General meeting of Hong Kong Philharmonic Society, Cathedral Hall, 8.30 p.m.

January 27—Annual meeting of St. Peter's Church Young Men's Club, 8.30 p.m.

February 9—Fortieth annual meeting of shareholders of the Hong Kong Land Investment & Agency Co., Ltd., at Messrs. Jardine, Matheson's offices, 12.30 p.m.

Miscellaneous.

To-day—Reception to welcome the Dean and Mrs. Swann, by Church Council of St. Peter's Church, in the Club Hall, 8.45 p.m.

January 22—Opening date of Photographic & Art Exhibition at Macao.

January 25—Hong Kong St. Andrew's Society hold annual Burns Dinner.

THE ONLY SON.

HANDICAPPED IN LIFE'S BATTLE.

The Bishop of Hereford, addressing the Cambridge Union Society, said: "One engaged in training air pilots during the war said that he had never known an only son pass the flying test."

Is this a proof that only sons are incapable of passing test of confronting the difficult realities of life? The kind of "nerve" requisite for adventurous aviation is an innate endowment. Some are born with physical courage, and others are not. Fewer still are endowed with intellectual and moral courage.

Many naturally timid military heroes have compensated for their fear by an extraordinary display of bravery. Some of the world's greatest men and women have won fame through an austere conflict with a sense of inferiority.

There is no doubt that the only child is frequently handicapped in the battle of life. The only boy, especially if he is the only child, is frequently coddled by an over-fond mother to such an extent that he is never able to escape the dependence of childhood. Anatole France, recalling his childhood with a dozing mother, exclaimed: "There is no tyranny more heavy than that of maternal love."

Mother's Darling. The "mother's darling" is often intensely conceited and incapable of self-criticism. He provides a problem for his school-master and his employer. More than all, he is intolerable to his wife.

The chief aim in parental education should be to equip the child with independence and self-reliance in adult life. The fond mother finds it hard to relax her authority when the youth is approaching manhood, and the relation between parent and child becomes a severe conflict in many cases.

The result of the conflict is often unfortunate. The boy develops a hatred of all forms of authority, or he becomes insatiable in manhood for the "sympathy" of his wife, his family, and his friends. The tragedy is that the over-fond mother is so well intentioned, so solicitous for her son's happiness—Walter M. Gallichan.

NOTICE.

HONG KONG PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.

OWING TO MONDAY NEXT being a Public Holiday, the Extraordinary General Meeting arranged for that day is POSTPONED TO WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26th, at 6.30 p.m. at the Cathedral Hall.

H. J. BEST, Hon. Secretary, Hong Kong, 18th January, 1928.

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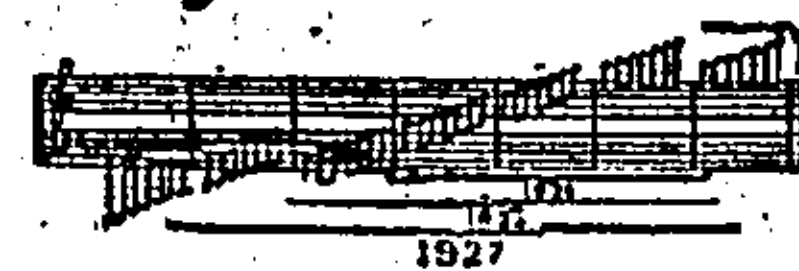
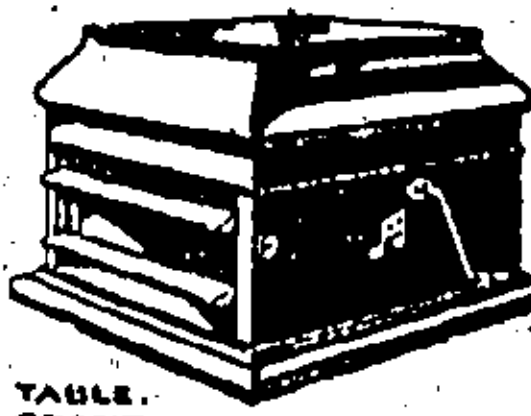


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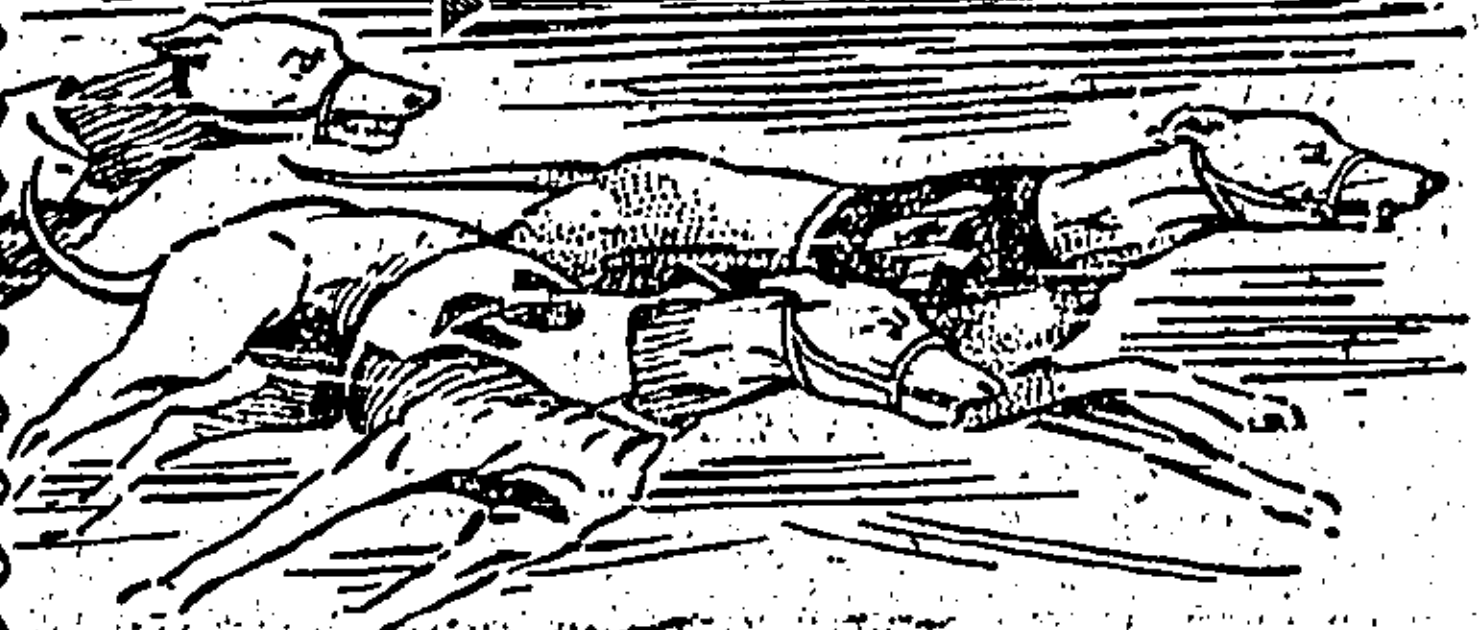
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LOCAL AND GENERAL SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

Miss Maude Royden, the preacher, left England on Dec. 28 on a world tour, including China and Japan.

A debtor in the Northampton County Court said he was the father of 30 children, 29 of whom were girls.

Three hundred and ninety-three deacons were ordained during the year ended last September, 30 more than in the previous year.

Mr. H. W. Looker voted for the new Prayer Book in the House of Commons division, and Mr. Penny, Mr. Campbell and Col. Aplin against it.

Hundreds of banjos were destroyed by a fire in the banjomaking department of the Decca Gramophone Co., Ltd., in Cranmer Road, Brixton, S.W.

Lieut.-General Sir Edwin Alderson, who during the war commanded the Canadian Division and afterwards the Canadian Army Corps, died at Lowestoft aged 58.

The following were among the Fellows elected at the last meeting of the Council of the Royal Colonial Institute:—Ernest F. Hardman and John F. Pilcher, both of Shanghai.

Mme. de Fleurbaey, wife of the French Ambassador, and Mlle. de Fleurbaey left London on Dec. 15 for France. They will be away about a month. The Ambassador will remain in London.

A late 16th-century morocco French binding, marked with the crowned cyphers of the Medicis, enclosing Giannotti's "La Repubblica di Venezia" (Lyons, 1569), realised £630 at Messrs. Sotheby's.

Frank Percival, aged 16, of Hugglescote, near Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire, was found dead in a garage in which he had apparently been overcome by fumes after starting up his father's car.

The chairman, the Marquis of Blandford, announced a record subscription list of £11,613 at the annual dinner of Queen Mary's Hospital for the East End, of which the Queen is Patroness and Prince Henry President.



F. W. von Prittwitz-Gaffron, new Ambassador to the United States. Before this appointment he was connected with the German Embassy in Italy.

A musicale will be held at the Helena May on Thursday, January 26, at 5.30 p.m. The programme will be of French Modern Music. Tickets to be booked at the Secretary's office—teas may be had from 4 p.m. onwards.—Adv.

The Cumberland provincial division of the National Union of Conservative and Unionist Associations has passed a resolution urging on the Government a reduction of expenditure and safeguarding of industries, especially iron, steel, and agriculture.

Sir William Joynton-Hicks, the Home Secretary, and Sir Philip Cunliffe-Lister, President of the Board of Trade, had to share between them the handshakes of 6,000 people who at Olympia, Kensington, W., attended a whist drive and dance organised by the Conservatives of Middlesex.

Sir Fredric Whyte, the head of the British Delegation to the Honolulu Conference, who is returning to England, after having made a study of the Chinese situation, was entertained at dinner by the Institute of Pacific Relations in New York on Dec. 13. There were 300 guests, including Mr. J. D. Rockefeller, jun., Mr. Newcomb Carlton, and Mr. Thomas Lamont.

Booking is now open at Moutrie's and the Star Theatre for "Incidents," the entertaining revue with which Mr. Dick Norton's company of eleven artists, the Globe Trotters, will conclude their local season at the Star Theatre on Friday and Saturday next. "Incidents" represents an entirely new programme which can be relied upon to go with a swing from start to finish. Admission is at the popular prices of \$5, \$2 and \$1.

The Duke of York was \$2 in mail week.

Mr. J. Stencher, tide surveyor at Canton, has retired after 31 years in the Customs Service.

Mr. Yasuhiro Mori, Counsellor of the Japanese Embassy in Rome, has been appointed Minister to Chile.

It is understood that Mr. Justice J. R. Wood (Puisne Judge) and Sir Joseph Kemp, K.C. (Attorney-General) will be going on Home leave at the end of April.

A Chinese woman was sentenced to nine months' imprisonment by Mr. Schofield at Kowloon yesterday for kidnapping a six-year-old girl from the On Lee Shipyard, where her father was employed.

Mrs. Woodhouse, of Harrogate, celebrated her 101st birthday on Dec. 10, and, judging by her picture in the "Daily Express," looks both hale and hearty. Her grandson is Dr. Duppuy, the Bishop of Hong Kong.



Manuel Quezon, President of the Philippine Senate, who has been on a visit to Washington.

The P. & O. s.s. "Khyber" is due here on Saturday with the Home Mail via Suez. Among the passengers on board are the following for Hong Kong:—Mr. N. H. Bennett, Rev. and Mrs. A. H. Bray, Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Coom, Mr. S. W. Cliffe, Mr. J. S. Dykes, Mr. J. A. Galbraith, Lt.-Comdr. E. C. Hulton, Lieut. J. H. Illingworth, Mr. and Mrs. J. McCormack, Mr. and Mrs. W. Shaw, Mr. and Mrs. A. K. Taylor, Masters Taylor (two).

Pictures showing for the last time to-day, besides the exciting detective story, "The Pleasure Buyers," at the Queen's Theatre, include "The Lucky Lady," with Greta Nissen and Lionel Barrymore at the World Theatre; and "Aloma of the South Seas," with Gilda Gray at the Star Theatre. "The Lucky Lady" is being screened at 5.15 and 9.20 only, the picture at 2.30 and 7.15 in the World Theatre being the Chinese drama, "Wong Tin Ba."

The wife of a man in a good position as a shipping agent in China was sentenced at Marylebone Police Court on Dec. 20 to three months' imprisonment in the second division for shop-lifting. A detective described her as a "confirmed shoplifter." She was Mrs. Annie Tweedie, aged thirty-two. Mrs. Tweedie was alleged to have posed in Oxford as Lady Everard Fraser, and was accused by a West London firm of stealing gloves, brooches, and other articles. Detective Somerset said that her husband makes her a monthly allowance, and that she has two children at boarding houses in England.

The candle-blowing oath taken by a Chinese, before Mr. Justice McCardie is only one of the strange forms of oath permitted in British courts. Another Chinese method is to break a saucer, the witness exclaiming: "If I do not tell the whole truth then, as that saucer is broken, may my soul be broken like it." The Buddhist version runs: "I declare, as in the presence of Buddha, that I am unperjured, and if what I shall speak prove false, or if by colouring truth others shall be led astray, then may the three holy existences, Buddha, Dharma and Prosangha, in whose sight I now stand, together with the Devotees of the twenty-two firmaments, punish me and also my migrating soul."

"Shanghai Bound," the new picture at the Plaza, is a story of revolution and gun-running in China, with Richard Dix as the star. The story is written by Tex O'Reilly, who was a member of the International Police Force at Shanghai for two years, and who was afterwards a drill master in the Chinese Imperial Army. Richard Dix plays the part of a captain of a river boat trading on the Yangtze. He is a film replica of Captain Lator. The most thrilling scene in the picture shows how he rescues a company of white people from river pirates and then proceeds to fight his way down-stream. The Chinese background has been faithfully reproduced, and more than 200 Chinese appear in the river scenes.

Mr. Adachi, the Japanese Ambassador in Belgium, has been appointed to succeed Viscount Ishii as Ambassador in Paris.

Sir Frederick White and the Hon. Bertrand Russell arrived from New York by the Cunard liner "Berengaria" on Dec. 21.

Six tugs were needed to pull clear the Norwegian steamer "Pan" (1,309 tons), which became wedged between two buttresses of London Bridge.

At a party at Nind Home, Singapore, the engagement of Mr. Paul Thomas and Miss Sylvia Barnes, both of the Methodist Mission, was announced.

"Truth" acknowledges the receipt of £26 6s. from the Singapore Turf Club towards the Christmas Toy Fund and a like sum for the Tress Barry Fund.

Mr. F. Wicketh M. Int. M.M., M.I.M.E., of Enggor, and Mr. A. G. Story, of Tapah, have joined the Board of Directors of Raja Perak Tin, Limited.

Mrs. Florence May Weeks, aged 37, the wife of the steward of the Shirehampton Golf Club, Bristol, and one of Bristol's strongest swimmers, died after collapsing in the hot mineral baths at Bath.

Rear-Admiral John Ewart Cameron had the honour of being received by the King at Buckingham Palace on Dec. 14, upon relinquishing his appointment as Rear-Admiral and Senior Naval Officer, Yangtze.

The Spanish Ambassador and the Marquesa de Merry del Val gave a dinner at the Embassy on Dec. 15 in honour of the Infante Alfonso and the Infanta Beatrice, the guests including the French Ambassador and Sir Maurice de Bunsen.

A well-known personality of Tientsin, Mr. Marcel Wolfers, who for some years past has been manager of the Tientsin branch of Arnhold and Co., Ltd., left for New York via Mukden, Japan and San Francisco recently to take up a position as Vice-President of the affiliated Corporation in America.



Rear Admiral Thomas P. Ma-gruder, whose recently outspoken criticism of the administration of the U.S. Navy, in an article bearing his name in the "Saturday Evening Post," caused an uproar.

Two motor-cycles, one driven by Albert Victor Gwyer, aged 30, of Downton, Wiltshire, and the other by William Rosier, of Great Bedwyn, Wiltshire, who had his son Stanley as a pillion passenger, crashed into one another in the fog near Salisbury, both drivers being killed.

Mr. F. G. Penny, M.P., and Mrs. Penny, were guests of Sir Rowland and Lady Blades when they entertained Prince and Princess Arthur of Connaught at dinner at Claridge's on Dec. 15. The party went after dinner to a scientific gathering at the Middlesex Hospital.

A marriage has been arranged, and will shortly take place in Shanghai, between David Hulme Halley, eldest son of George Hulme Halley, of Inverlawn, near Dundee, and Margaret Maureen Sparke, only daughter of Charles Ethelbert Sparke, of Shanghai, and Mrs. Sparke, Bexhill-on-Sea.

It has been decided to form a London Java Association and the following officers have been elected:—Mr. E. T. Campbell, M.P., president; and Messrs. A. E. Veale (care of Messrs. Francis Peck and Co., Ltd., 5, Eastcheap, E.C.3) and J. Lamb, hon. secretary and assistant hon. secretary respectively.

Dr. Neville Whymant, the Orientalist, whose remarkable sittings with Mr. George Valentine, the American "direct voice" medium, were described about a year ago, lectured on Dec. 20 to members of the National Laboratory of Psychological Research, South Kensington. Gramophone records of the reputed voice of Confucius, made in Lord Charles Hope's flat last spring, were played during Dr. Whymant's lecture.

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FASHIONS AND FANCIES

PICTURESQUE EVENING
GOWNS.



Various Silhouettes Announce a
Season of Individuality in the
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A new note in the formal frocks that go to dances and the theatre has been exhibited in the gowns that are winning attention in the smartly dressed world. The picturesque costume is now at the height of the mode. The sophisticated frock that depended entirely upon line has made way for the formal gown of billowing skirts that is part of the robe de style; the scant knee length dress of velvet—very full and uneven as to line; trains are even seen as well as the dropped shoulder yokes of another day—these types of dresses that announce the sartorial formal season will all stress the picturesque and individual.

The marked feminine feeling is being expressed with particular effectiveness. The snug fitted bodice is much seen with berthes, proving popular in many instances. Full skirts, short in front, but falling nearly to the ground in back, are seen, too.

The short in front, but longer in the back line of the skirt is pretty nearly the accepted silhouette but in all cases it does not lead to grace and many of the Paris designers have created instead gowns expressing individuality by having an uneven hemline appear at all sorts of places.

Virginia Lee Corbin, whose blonde daintiness makes her easy to gaze upon in the modern formal frocks, appears in a striking costume in the First National film, "No Place to Go." It is of lipstick red velvet, irregular of hem, faced with silver cloth and turned back to reveal the silver on the outside. The skirt is gathered with a heading of the silver and attached to an elongated basque. Garlands of roses trim the dress and the picturesque note is decidedly present.

LONGER FROCKS.

Evening frocks in general are longer all round. They are still very uneven; for it is only the real robe-de-style that is accorded a perfectly even hem, often transparent. Chiffon is obviously to be prominent in the ball-room picture, especially in the case of the straight kind of dress. Exquisitely soft and supple tulle, velvet, and satin will be the materials most favoured for the robe-de-style, which also lends itself admirably to a judicious harmonising of such materials. Thus a tulle dress is seen with an almost knee-high hem of chiffon while a velvet bodice can be most picturesquely allied to a skirt of tulle. Satin frocks are being trimmed with velvet, with tulle, or with chiffon. A chiffon robe-de-style has ruffles of tulle or bands of velvet. Decorative touches are endless, in fact, in their variety.

SPORT COSTUMES HAVE SIMPLE LINES.



Fall Sports Outfits Express Harmony of Colour and Texture—The
Sweater Ensemble Is Much Seen in Smart
Combinations of Colours.

The youthful note is emphasised in sports costumes. The simple outline, too, is observed. In general it is noted that there is a harmony of feeling in colour and fabrics that creates in some of the smartest sports togs seen in several seasons.

Many of the favoured models are viewed in kashas of new weaves in beige, several shades of brown, blue and black. Mixtures are popular, too. Combinations of colours are favoured. For instance, a suit of brown kasha may be seen combined with a sweater using brighter tones such as orange or red with tans. Gray may be trimmed with red and black, bright blues or yellows.

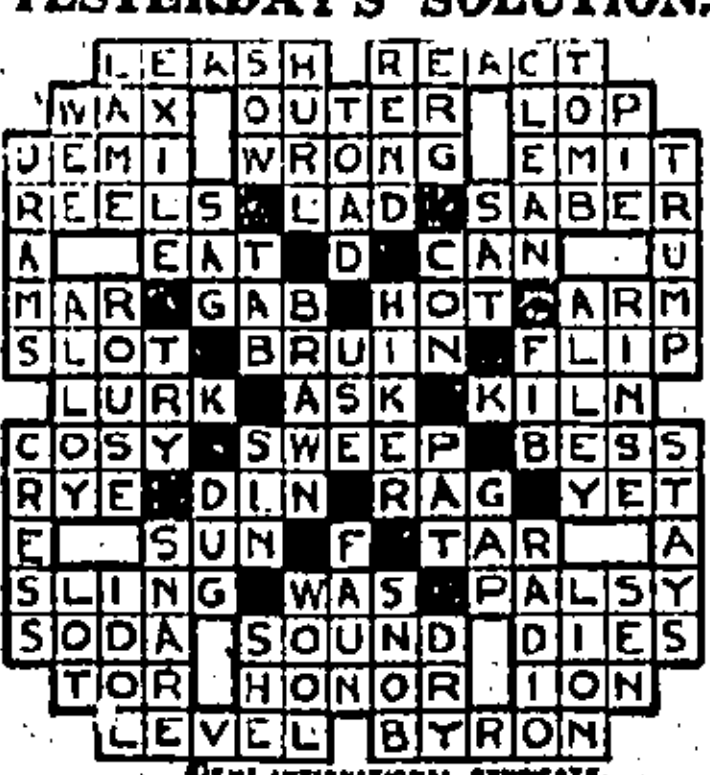
Zephyr wools which model so well, woven in zigzag designs, create several of the distinguished sports dresses and are worn in combination with jackets of wool jersey. Wool jersey blouses combined with crepe skirts are in evidence, too. These may be of the same contrasting shades of harmonising tones. Or the colour scheme may be noted with the same fabric trimming the skirt that forms the blouse.

The sweater ensemble is much in the limelight of sports. The knitted frock is worn with jersey jumper or jacket. An open sweater may also reveal a one piece dress of woollen fabric in striking colour contrasts. Suits of tweed worn with Angora jersey blouses also are new and exceedingly chic. Button sweaters that reveal knitted frocks of straight slim lines are also seen in youthful and pleasing examples of the sports mode.

Sport and travelling coats use fluffy surfaced materials in mixed tones of gray or brown. Black is proving an exceptionally fashionable colour for sports. Usually the lines are straight with a swagger effect at the bottom. Patch pockets emphasize the sports note. Fur collars are worn for effect as well as comfort and the newer sports furs are in evidence here as well as in the coats made entirely of fur.

Mary Astor wears an interesting

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION.



in colour with Barbol paint, and when dry varnish with Barbol varnish. Now to complete, bore a tiny hole in the top of your drop, and insert the ring of the earring screws, and you have just the most delightful pair of earrings you can imagine. Of course, you can arrange flowers to match your costume, or use a brilliant contrast. I know the description may sound boring, but in reality it is really lovely; and if you have an artistic tendency and clever fingers, you will find the work fascinating. I've told you what can be done with fishbones, but

COLUMBUS.

ANOTHER BRICK HURLED
AT HIM.

NOT AN ITALIAN!

Paris, Dec. 23.

Christopher Columbus was a French corsair of Spanish descent and not an Italian, his name wasn't even Christopher Columbus, but Jean Colom, and when he discovered America in 1492, he was only making a second voyage, because on a secret trip some years before he had found that the world was round and land lay over the horizon.

That at least is the way Luis Ulloa, Peruvian student of Americana, is seeking to rewrite the story in histories and textbooks. Fear of having his effigy burned in Chicago caused Ulloa to decline to disclose other rather startling findings about the hero's past.

Ulloa has spent years in Europe, delving into manuscripts and five hundred year old documents and is convinced that the story of the discovery of America, as we were taught it in the schools, is court propaganda of Ferdinand and Isabella.

According to his revised version of history, America was discovered sometime about 1746 when the Corsair Joan Colom, working for a Danish King, Christian LIII, discovered Greenland and may have looked over Manhattan Island or the hills of Boston Bay without actually setting foot on shore.

"My study has left no doubt in my mind that Colom was born at Catalan, in the territory of Ampurdan, which stretches for thirty-five miles in the present Spanish province of Girona, between the Rio Fluvia and the Pyrenees," said Ulloa.

"Thus he would appear to be Spanish, although we know that he served various French princes as a sea captain. During the Catalan revolt he commanded the fleet of Bene d'Anjou from 1466 to 1473, when his ships went on the rocks of the Portuguese coast.

"He then organised a pirate fleet with the ships of the French King Catholic, that obliged Colom to

change his surname and later his full name. Later when Isabella sent Colom off to discover America he was "manufactured" into an Italian servant of the crown, so that Castille and not Catalonia, would get all the credit of a "discovery" which had been assured beforehand.

"I have documentary proof that the King did not ignore that Columbus had discovered land before he sent him on that historic trip to find a short-cut to the Indies. In fact I found the original contract between the King and Colom, only falsified forgeries which have never been heretofore published.

"In this contract the King says, 'as a recompense for what you have already discovered and what you will discover in my name.' The certificate that Colom had found land across the Atlantic is found in a document which Mr. Sofus Larsen, eminent director of the National Library at Copenhagen, discovered in the files.

"This Danish document is a contract giving Colom the fleet with which he discovered Greenland, but here Colom was hiding under the name of Joan Scolvo. When he saw the American continent, I am convinced he thought that he had discovered an unknown corner of Asia and that by going farther south he would strike the rich Indies.

"Recently, I have had the good fortune to discover in the archives at Barcelona the royal contract in which Isabella sent Colom on his way. It says, 'Mitimus nobilium cirum Kristoforum Colom cum tribus caravelis armatis per maria oceanis ad partes indiae.' "We send the noble Sir Christopher Colom with three armed caravels out upon the ocean seas towards the territory of India."

It was thus Colom started, under an assumed name, on his second trip to America from the little port of Palos, on the Andalusian coast, August 4, 1492.—United Press.

Countess Ahlefeldt-Laurvig, the wife of the Danish Minister, was one of the busiest women in London as hostess of the Crown Prince of Denmark. The Legation contains many treasures, including a room devoted to one of the best collections of Chinese porcelain in London.

this cardboard jewellery is really prettier.

The Beauty of Colour.

Have you ever noticed Queen Mary does not belong to the monstrous regiment of elderly dressers for ever in black? I think she is so wise and clever, too. It is a very common mistake some women make, of always wearing sombre garments. This is not because the Queen dislikes black, but she believes the soft pastel shades suit her white hair and fine clear complexion best; and I am quite sure she is right, for blue eyes nearly always look bluer when thrown up with pale shades. Certainly the powder blues so much liked by her Majesty—hydrangea blue, mauves, petal pink, and those charming cloud greys—are so much liked in preference to any other shades by the Queen, and no one ever heard of her wearing any shade of brown or green at any time, nor did she ever appear in beige, for which there has been such a craze. It is largely owing to the Queen that pale-tinted glittering evening gowns are so popular, for she set the vogue of having her evening dresses made to match each particular set of jewels she possesses. If tailor-mades are required, navy blue is first favourite with the Queen. Princess Mary also is never seen in black, but she adopts the pale tints so popular with her royal mother. I have seen her in pale green—this at Ascot of this year—and well it suited her, for the Princess inherits her mother's blue eyes and flawless skin. I do think women should consider these things in the same way as our royal ladies, but the monotony of black can be, and is just now positively boring. Black is the highest pinnacle of fashion mood to-day, and every other woman or girl is arrayed in the smartest of black tailor-mades, with either a widow's brimmed hat or a skull cap, known as the Mephisto hat, with tufts of plumage at the sides.

Princess Mary's Lead.

Another departure is due to Princess Mary, and that is the wearing of country clothes correctly. It won't surprise you to hear the Princess wears, none

but British-made tweeds, English or Irish homespun, and hand-woven Scottish tweeds. At Goldborough she wears coats and skirts, and knitted scarves generally made by the crochets, and soft felt hats with a brim. I think our Princess has been largely responsible for the great impetus given to the wearing of sports clothing, but she never wears pullovers or cardigans, but a silk shirt with plain man's collar and tie, and does not patronise the Fair Isle knitted jumper. Take all our royal ladies, and you will very rarely see them in black. The Duchess of York, for instance, like the Queen, delights in pale colours. I am sure you must have noted this when she was with you. She is very feminine and does not care for tailor-mades, but she always being trimmed and flounced with fur. Something fluffy at the side of her hat suits the Duchess, and she knows it, and always has the trimming put on in this way. It is quite clear these ladies realise the value of colour, and the Duchess of York especially never departs from the feminine touch with all her clothes. She it was who gave encouragement to the robe-de-style or picture dress, and very sweet she looks in them.

Needlework Culture.

It is extraordinary since the war how women in England have revived the art of needlework. I have seen the loveliest work recently which will live, for ever practically, both in finest Berlin wool work, tapestry, and petit point. The present day woman has undoubtedly returned to the pastime of her ancestors of the middle ages with regard to needlework, and I am visiting this week one of the most wonderful exhibitions of ancient and modern needlework, which has even been got together. The exhibition is on behalf of one of our country hospitals, which like all county or other hospitals, kept going by voluntary contributions is shouting for funds. This is the first time such an exhibition has ever been held on behalf of charity and Queen Mary is patron and is also lending some valuable work for the show.

FOR SALE.

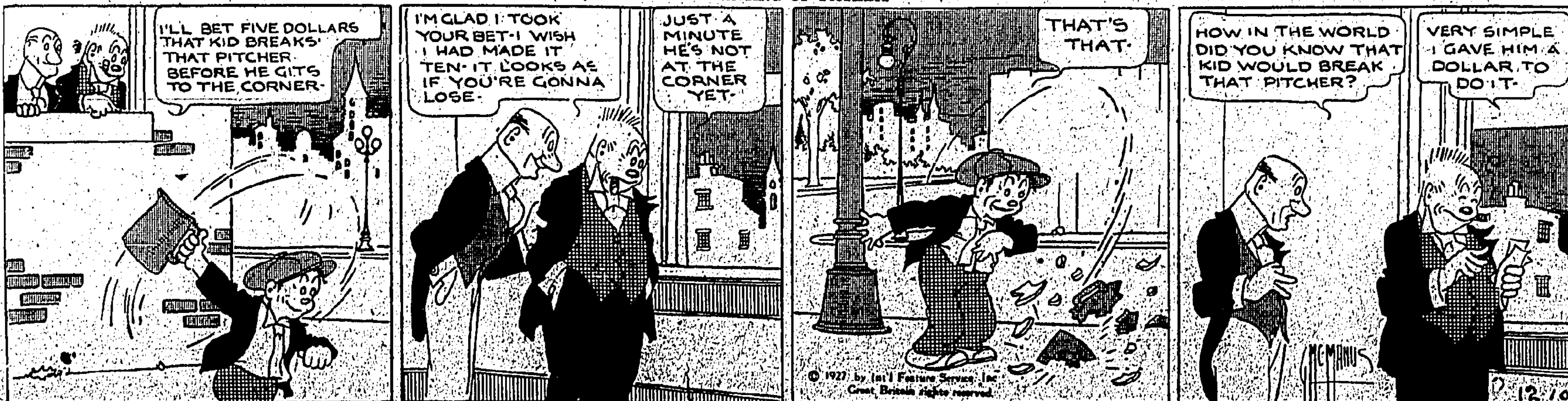
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A TRAGIC ECHO.

MAX LINDER'S DEATH
RECALLED.

UNHAPPY MARRIAGE.

Memories of the tragic fate of a world-renowned film star and his young wife are revived by the litigation in Paris concerning the guardianship of their three-year-old daughter.

Max Linder, France's foremost screen actor, enjoyed a universal popularity, challenged only by that of Charlie Chaplin.

At the zenith of his fame he eloped with the pretty 17-year-old daughter of a rich Paris manufacturer, but when the first flush of romance died away their marriage was marred by profound unhappiness.

The tragedy which was to end it all was foreshadowed by dramatic incidents within a year of their union. Twice they were found together, on the verge of death, suffering from veronal poisoning.

Then, two years ago, came the climax of their domestic vicissitudes. They were found dead in their bedroom at an hotel. In each case arteries in the left wrist had been severed, and an empty bottle of veronal stood near.

Dead Woman's Honour.

It was at Chamonix in the spring of 1923 that Max Linder, then 41 years of age, and at the height of his fame, renewed his acquaintance with pretty Mlle. Jeango Peters, whom he had known when she was a child.

Love at first sight, elopement, and marriage came quickly, and just as rapidly came the shadows of disillusionment, followed by open disagreement and supreme tragedy. They left behind them a baby daughter, Josette, now a tiny heiress to a large fortune.

The child was entrusted to the care of Mme. Peters, Mrs. Linder's mother, after her parents' death, and now, in the Paris Court, Max Linder's father and mother, M. and Mme. Leuville, and his brother Maurice are seeking to obtain the custody of little Josette.

Distinguished counsel represent the litigants. M. Alexandre Millerand, ex-President of the French Republic, appears for the dead woman's people, and the interests of the Linders are in the hands of M. Paul Boncour, the French Socialist leader and the French delegate to the League of Nations.

Hundreds of people, including fashionable women and stage stars, covered with jewels, fought for admission to the court, and the unseemly scramble for seats drew forth from M. Millerand the scathing comment that the motley throng "resembled more a cinema audience than the audience of a court of justice." From the outset it became apparent that much of the evidence would be of an unsavoury character.

LIVING CONDITIONS.

DISTINCT MENACE TO
CIVILISATION.

DELEGATES FROM HOME.

Colombo, Jan. 1. "Since our arrival in India we have already seen sufficient to satisfy us that the conditions under which Indian workers are to-day employed and are living is a distinct menace to civilisation," said Mr. A. A. Purcell, M. P., who has arrived here from Madras.

"I would refer particularly," he continued, "to the housing conditions, lack of food and clothing, which is evident everywhere. We are satisfied that the British working classes will take a very serious view of the report which it is our duty to prepare regarding the living conditions of India's working people."

"A militant movement is necessary to foster and spread education, modern sanitation, and up-to-date housing methods among them."

Mr. Purcell and Mr. Joseph Haddow have been sent to India and Ceylon by the British Trade Union Congress in order to study workingmen's conditions and make a report thereon.—"Penang Gazette."

MR. HARRY TATE.

KIDNED WITH WIFE UNDER
CAR.

Mr. Harry Tate, the comedian, whose music-hall sketch "Motor-ing" has made thousands laugh, has given an unhearsable turn on the high road which, happily, had not the serious consequences which at first seemed likely.

Driving with his wife from Swansea to London, he was taking an awkward bend in Newport Road, Cardiff, when his car skidded on the greasy surface. It ran into a wall and turned over, Mr. and Mrs. Tate being pinned underneath.

When they were extricated they were found to be suffering from nothing worse than slight bruises.

ELECTION IN 1928?

M.P. FORESEES A BUDGET
FIGHT.

SOCIALISTS' WARNING.

A warning to Socialists to be prepared for a general election in the spring of 1928 was uttered by Mr. T. E. Naylor, M.P., in an address from the chair at the annual conference of the London Labour Party.

"May I warn local Labour Parties and candidates not to rely on the assumption that the general election will not take place before 1929," said Mr. Naylor. "There is more than reason why the Government may persuade itself to make an early appeal to the country."

"The fact that the Liberal Party is to finance 500 candidates does not please the Government, for such a programme opens up the prospect of three-cornered contests which will not be to the advantage of the Conservative Party."

"It is within the bounds of probability, then, that the Government, anxious to avoid the certain disaster which awaits it in 1929, and at the same time to dish the Liberals, may try to retrieve its prospects by a sudden resolve to change the law in such a way as to prevent the election of minority members."

"By all accounts the next Budget will not add to the reputation of the Government, in which event the election might be fixed to take place in the spring of next year."

SYNTHETIC BEAUTY.

PHYLLIS AND THE
CHEMISTS.

The reason for the claim of Dr. E. F. Armstrong, managing director of the British Dyestuffs Corporation, that the "flapper" should be described as the patron saint of chemistry has been made clear to the "London Press."

"The chemist is the kind magician of the modern girl," said a distinguished research chemist. "He can dress her like a queen for the price of a pair of patent leather shoes."

"The forests of Sweden and Canada provide the material which goes to make her artificial silk stockings and evening frocks. Chic colours are manufactured with benzene extracted from British coal."

"The bangles on her arms, now so much in the fashion, are but a cunning mixture of resins and milk products; while the perfumes of lavender, hyacinth, and attar of roses with which she scents herself are often merely mixtures of turpines."

Lip Lard.

"Nor must we leave out the small perfecting touches of the rouge and the lipstick. These beautifiers the scientist makes with lead and iron ore. And he can transform her hair into the gold of a Norse goddess with a little of his hydrogen peroxide."

Indeed, as Dr. Armstrong said: "The British Association of Chemists should have a banner, on the one side of which should be the benzene ring and on the other a 'flapper.'"

The Rev. T. W. Bowmar, principal of the Anglo-Chinese School, Seremban, will not leave Seremban until early March for his furlough in America.

"IRISH KINK."

HUSBAND LOSES SUIT AGAINST
AN ACTOR.

"A RUINED MAN."

Judgment was given for the defendant in the King's Bench Division in an action brought by Mr. Archie Gillinson, of Alfred-place, W.C., against an actor, Mr. Clifford Foster, known as Clifford Barclay, of Liverpool Street, King's Cross.

Mr. Gillinson claimed damages for alleged malicious prosecution. He conducted his own case.

"A few years ago," he said, "I was a prosperous manufacturer in the North of England, and was worth £20,000. To-day I stand here a ruined man."

"In December, 1921," he continued, "I contracted a most unfortunate marriage to an Irish girl. She has an Irish kink in her. Within a few months I had to move to London and take my wife to new surroundings, and I had to give up my business."

"In 1925," said Mr. Gillinson, he had divorce proceedings pending, and was investigating the conduct of his wife with Mr. Foster and another man. Finally, he wrote two letters to the producer of the revue in which Mr. Foster and his wife appeared. Mr. Foster alleged that these letters were libellous.

"Police officers came to my house early in the morning," said Mr. Gillinson. "I was dragged out of bed and taken to Marlborough Street Police Court. I was then committed for trial, but was acquitted."

Mr. Justice Avey said he was of opinion that Mr. Gillinson had failed to establish any case which could be left to the jury. At the judge's direction the jury returned a verdict for the defendant, and judgment was entered accordingly.

Mr. Thorpe, for Mr. Foster, stated that in December, 1923, Mr. Gillinson started divorce proceedings, and had cited seven co-defendants. He claimed £6,700 damages.

REDS' VICTIM.

MARCH OF WELSH MINERS
TO LONDON.

PITIFUL FIASCO.

When a hundred shivering and forlorn-looking Welsh miners, part of the contingent that marched to London, left Paddington with the body of one of their number who had been run over and killed after falling from a bicycle, passengers who saw them and sympathised with them made angry comments on the Communist leaders responsible for their plight.

On the red cover which draped the coffin a miner's lamp glistened. Each miner carried a lamp. One or two of the men who were taken to the refreshment-room and given cups of tea by kindly passengers expressed their thanks almost mutely.

"What good has your visit done?" one man asked sympathetically. Not a miner could find words to reply. The questioner added: "And you have this," pointing to the coffin as he spoke.

And so they bore the coffin towards the Tonypandy train and sang Welsh hymns in trembling voices. And who saw the return realised what a cruel fiasco the march had been.

Another of the miners died in London from pneumonia contracted during the march.

CORAL LOVE NEST.

LOD HASTINGS SECRET
WEDDING.

A "WONDER HOME."

Viscount and Viscountess Hastings, who were secretly married at a London registrar office two years ago and sailed for Australia on the same day, have returned after discovering what he describes as a "wonder home" in South Sea Islands.

Lord Hastings is the son and heir of the Earl of Huntingdon, and his wife is a daughter of the Marquis of Casati, of Rome.

After the ceremony it was announced that the marriage "was without the consent, approval, or knowledge of his parents or family."

"I am afraid that our marriage was a rather hurried affair," Lord Hastings told a correspondent of a home paper, "and came as a great shock to my relatives, but as I had to proceed to Australia for family reasons I decided that it should not be postponed. We were therefore married secretly."

Coral House of 12 Rooms.

"After doing business in Australia we crossed to Tahiti, in the South Sea Islands group, and then to Moorea, a tiny island 20 miles away. There we were lucky to find a wonderful coral house with twelve rooms and wide verandahs that faced the rolling and deeply tinted Pacific Ocean."

"There was a golden fringe of sand outside our door, the house was situated in a little bay, with mountains in the distance—reminiscent of the Norwegian fjords, and in these surroundings we have spent the first year and a half of our married life."

"We have been able to bathe in the warm clear water at any time of the day or night, and our activities have included sailing, canoeing, fishing, and wild boar hunting. For the latter sport the native use knives, but I prefer a rifle."

"The sword-fishing grounds are the finest in the world, and we have had great sport."

"The natives are friendly, in fact distinctly charming, for they are absolutely unspoiled."

Not a Care in the World.

"Our treasure island, if you have any interests or hobbies, is a place where it is possible to be perfectly happy and to live without a care in the world."

"Although our stay in Europe will be indefinite, we shall most certainly return, for the atmosphere of the place has grown into our lives. It is too wonderful to describe."

"My wife loves gardening and working in our delightful coral home, and I do a lot of writing and work on a plantation where I grow copra and vanilla. There are six white men and two white women on the island, and the native population numbers 2,000."

"The weather is ideal, and when once you have absorbed the freedom of such a place it is hard not to go back."

"All Settled."

Asked whether there were any outstanding family troubles arising from his secret marriage, Lord Hastings replied that they had all been settled.

SEA HERMIT.

OFFER TO BECOME AN
ISLAND KING.

TENNIS-PLAYER'S CRUISE.

Allan Gorbault, former French lawn tennis champion, who has been making a trip round the world alone in his small sailing boat, the "Firecrest," is said to be considering the proposal of the natives of a Polynesian island to become their King.

The news comes from Reunion, where he recently arrived.

Gorbault, who appears to be thoroughly tired of civilised life and has spent nearly £7,000 on his journey, will, on returning to France, it is stated, build a similar boat and return to Polynesia after asking to be granted a small island as a concession.

He has only £70 left, it is understood, but he refuses all offers of pecuniary aid.

Kerbault is keeping secret why he has become a hermit of the seas, as he calls himself, but it is alleged that his pride was severely wounded because he failed to obtain admission to the Naval School, and sought to prove his metal.

MUTINY HEROES.

A HAZARIBAGH JUNGLE
FIND.

OFFICERS' GRAVES.

Mr. J. N. Samadhar, speaking at the Indian Historical Records Commission, said in the course of his official tour, Mr. G. E. Fawcett, Director of Public Instruction of Bihar and Orissa, came across a graveyard at Chatra in the district of Hazaribagh (formerly known as Ramgarh) without any inscription. The graveyard was referred to in the "Hazaribagh District Gazetteer" and Mr. Fawcett asked Mr. Samadhar whether he could throw any light as to the person buried in that graveyard.

It was ascertained by Mr. Samadhar that they were the graves of Lieutenant J. C. C. Daunt of the 70th Bengal Native Infantry and Sergeant Dynon of the 53rd Foot who performed great deeds of heroism and were subsequently rewarded with Victoria Crosses for "conspicuous gallantry in capturing two guns by pistolless the detachment with grape." The mutineers were completely defeated, losing all their guns and ammunition.

NOT COLLUSION.

WHEN A MAN PAYS FOR HIS
WIFE'S DIVORCE.

A JUDGE'S RULING.

Mr. Justice Salter, granting a divorce decree at Leeds Assizes recently, said both parties were desirous of the divorce, "as are the great majority of parties in these unpleasant cases."

"The fact that the woman was supplied with money to get a divorce is not what I should regard as collusion. That is when they say they have committed adultery and have not."

Out of 45 applications for decrees down for hearing, Mr. Justice Salter granted 39 and refused two. Four were adjourned. Twenty-one of the applications granted were wives' petitions.

MISS WISH WYNNE.

EMIGRATING WHEN SHE
RETIRE.

CHANGES IN PROFESSION.

Miss Wish Wynne, the actress, whose character studies are the delight of thousands, contemplates emigrating when she retires—but not just yet.

In private life she is Mrs. Bernard Kitchen, and her husband, a New Zealander—who was regarded as an "infant prodigy" pianist—originally intended to be a doctor, but his plans were interrupted by the war.

Now Mr. Kitchen has resumed his medical studies at St. Bartholomew's Hospital. "He expects to qualify as a doctor in two or three years time," said Miss Wynne, "and then I propose to give up the stage and accompany him to either Australia or South Africa, where he will practise."

"I am very fond of my work," she continued, "but I would like to leave it before they say, 'There's that same old thing again!' And the business is not what it used to be. I should very much like to get back to the theatre."

THRILLS FOR GIRLS.

OVERSEAS DOMESTIC SERVICE
RECOMMENDED.

UNEXPLORED FIELDS.

"I know a sense of pride or sheer snobbery prevents many girls from going overseas to take up domestic service," said Miss Margaret Bondfield, M.P., Sec., Wallend, at a meeting of the Association of Women Clerks and Secretaries in London.

"To a capable girl with a spirit of adventure," she said, "the prospect opens up vast unexplored fields, and there is no reason why she should stay in domestic service for ever. I am confident that there are splendid positions waiting for the girl who is willing to take responsibility upon herself in cases of emergency, who has a good brain and knows how to use it."

THE "PICTURESQUE" TYPE.

On river hats the swathed scarf again appears with good effect. The best, too, is quite frequently seen upon the river, but personally I prefer something shaggy.

Many of the newest frocks have uneven hems and uneven waistlines. We have the waistline which goes down into a deep point at the front, and then perhaps up in an equally long point at the back. Some of these frocks have slot pockets in the skirts, so that at last we have somewhere to put our "hankies."

Bolero coats are often worn with a frock of different colour. Sometimes they are used as short blazers for wear with any summer frock.

WATER SUPPLY.

Level and Storage of water in Reservoirs on January 1, 1928.—CITY AND HILL DISTRICT WATER WORKS LEVEL.

	1926	1927
Tyatam	15' 8" B	15' 8" B
Tyatam Bywash	25' 4" B	25' 4" B
Tyatam Intermediate Level	Level	Level
Tyatam Tuk	12' 11" B	25' 4" B
Wong Nei Chung	15' 2" B	15' 4" B
Pokfulum	17' 11" B	19' 3" B

[Note: B. denotes "Below Overflow"; A. denotes "Above Overflow".]

Storage in millions and decimals of gallons.

	1927	1928
Tyatam	278.72	285.76
Tyatam Bywash	.59	.33
Tyatam Intermediate	195.90	195.90
Tyatam Tuk	1,121.76	928.98
Wong Nei Chung	13.59	13.46
Pokfulum	25.36	25.82

Total

Consumption of water in the City and Hill District in millions and decimals of gallons during the month of December.

	1926	1927
Consumption	244.29	271.58
Estimated population 407,620	407,620	417,940
Consumption per head	1928	1927
per day	19.8	20.9

Full supply in all Rides Main Districts during December, 1927, with the exception of the districts West of Eastern Street where an intermittent supply was given from 4th to 31st December, 1927.

Full supply in all Rides Main Districts during December, 1927, with the exception of the districts West of Eastern Street where an intermittent supply was given from 1st to 31st December, 1927.

Kowloon Water Works LEVEL.

	1927	1928
Kowloon Reservoir	7' 0" B	7' 4" B
Shek Lai Pui Reser.	0' 7" B	1' 1" B
Reception Reservoir	8' 4" B	2' 8" B

Storage in millions and decimals of gallons.

	1927	1928
Kowloon Reservoir	288.50	280.42
Shek Lai Pui Reser.	98.40	96.37
Reception Reservoir	24.55	27.24

Total

Consumption of water in Kowloon in millions and decimals of gallons during the month of December.

	1926	1927
Consumption	74.89	85.88
Estimated population 168,140	168,140	168,140
per day	15.3	17.5

Full supply in all districts during December, 1928 and 1927.

The Government Analyst's reports show that the quality of the water is satisfactory.

Total rainfall to December 31, 1926, 100.78; December 31, 1927, 107.37.

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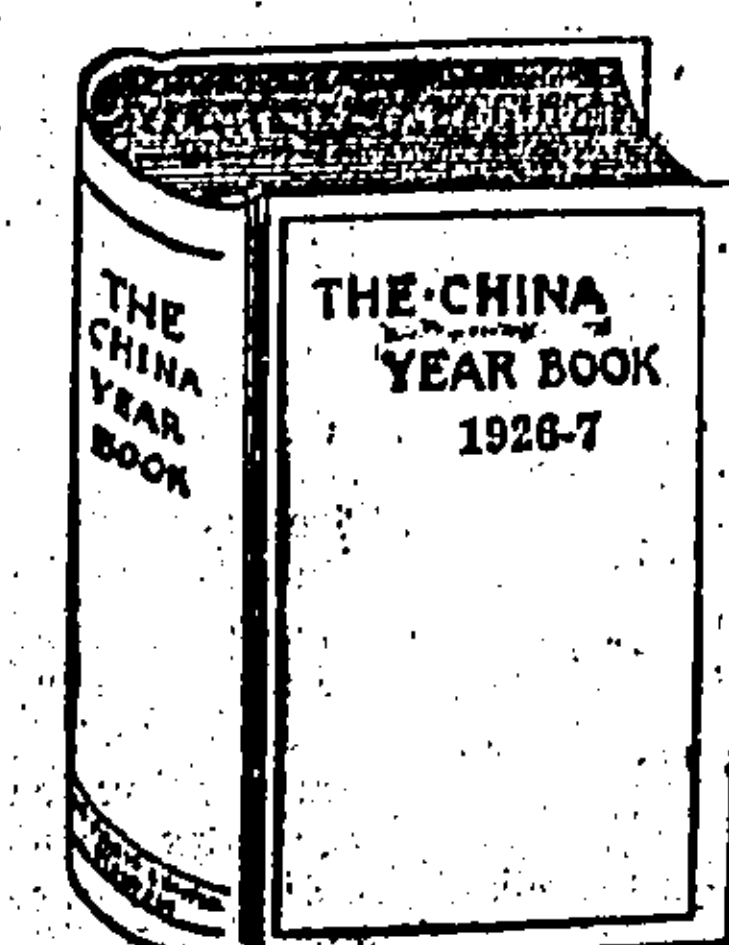
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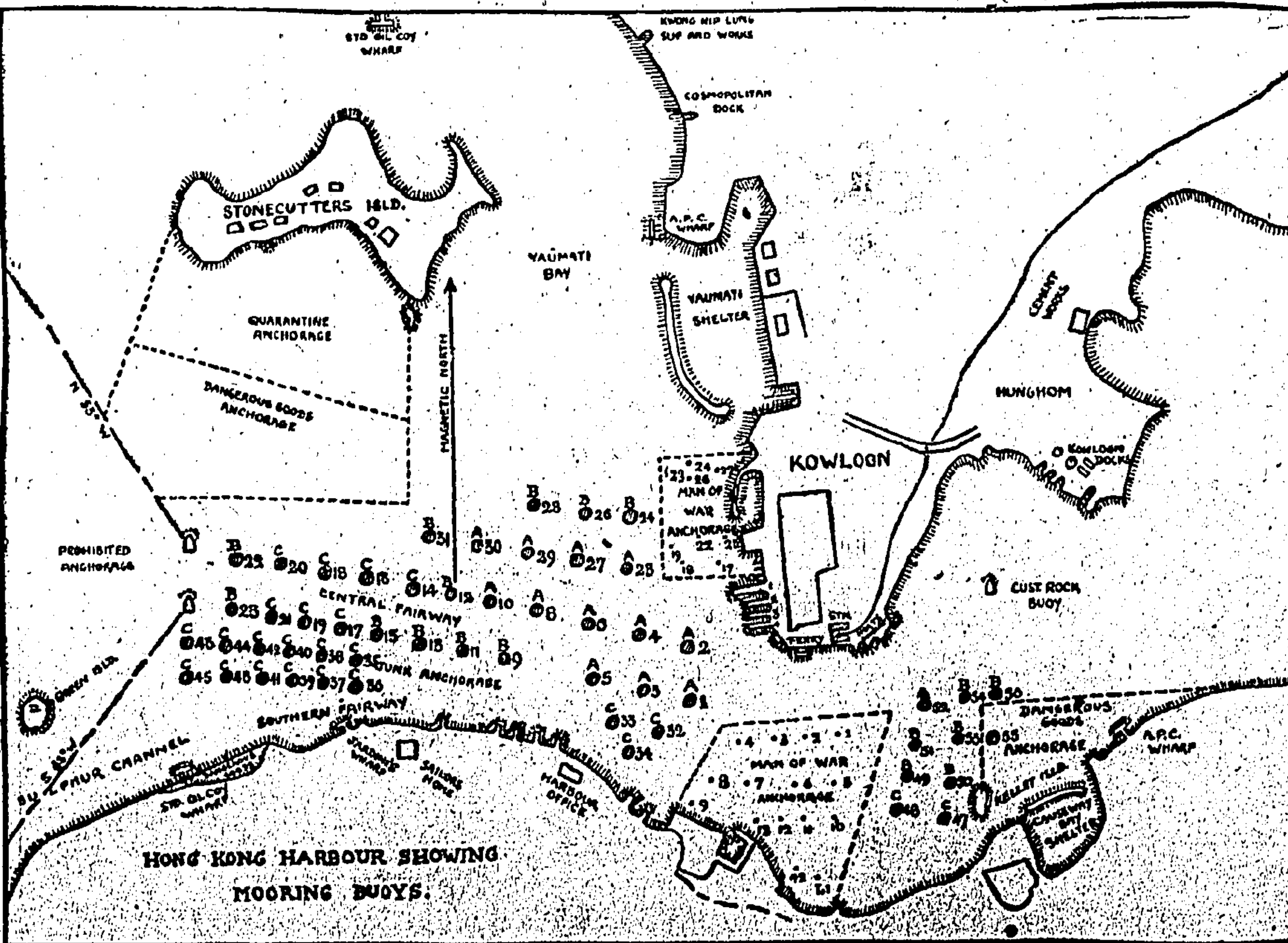
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Taikeo Sanatorium	1000	
St. David	877	
Bowen Rd. (afterbeds)	297	
	Mainland.	
Taimoshan	8124	
Kowloon Peak	1971	

WHERE TO FIND SHIPS IN HONG KONG HARBOUR—CHART OF THE PRINCIPAL MOORING BUOYS.



NORTH MANCHURIA.

BIG INCREASE IN BANDITRY.

TROOPS WITHDRAWN.

Harbin. The draining of the best Chinese troops from North Manchuria to the front has led to a great increase of bandit activity in this country.

Large bands have centred at some of the larger timber concessions on the Eastern Section of the Chinese Eastern Railway and greatly interfere with their working. At many places they have forced Chinese and Russian lumbermen to erect dwelling houses for them and also have employed them to dig trenches to be used in case of attack by soldiers.

The administration of the concessions is forced to provide the bandits with food, clothing and cash under threat to see its stocks of timber and firewood go up in flame.

Railway in Same Plight.

Not only private concessions are thus molested but even the concession of the Chinese Eastern Railway at Shantung finds itself in the same plight. A new branch line had been completed this fall leading to a fresh forest but work along it had been stopped on account of the presence of a band of brigands some 1,000 men strong who have demanded \$50,000 for non-interference. A detachment of Chinese troops sent to that region was ambushed and fighting is now reported to be in progress.

Other bands have invaded highways along which grain produces are carried to the railway and exact a toll from each cart. Attacks and plunder of car and motor car caravans have also become a frequent event.

Motor-Car Attacked.

Only a few days ago six motor-cars carrying passengers and freight from Tsisihar to Balchen were attacked by a large band. Five of the motor-cars were captured, several passengers being killed or wounded. Only one car in charge of a Russian driver and carrying \$100,000 belonging to Tsisihar bank was able to break through the attacking line and reach its destination, its body riddled by bullets.

A gruesome case is reported from the neighbourhood of Hailin station where a band of hunchbacked kidnaped 12 Korean farmers and demanded a ransom of \$150 per head. The ransom for three of them was paid promptly and they were released, the bandits promising to await until the rest of the money could be collected.

However when some days later the money was brought to the camp it was discovered that the bandits had left, leaving 9 terribly mutilated corpses behind them.

HEARTS HOAX.

THE MEXICAN FORGED DOCUMENTS.

Washington, Jan. 6. Evidence which is reported to be designed to link Miguel Avila, Hearst, secret agent, with Hearst's famous alleged Mexican documents was introduced to-day before the Senate Committee which is probing the Hearst charges of Mexican interference in United States domestic affairs.

Commander Carlos Cusachs, U.S.N. retired, who is a famous Spanish scholar, declared that one of Avila's statements in the hands of the committee contains certain unusual errors which are the same as errors appearing in the documents.

Evidence was previously introduced by Hearst's attorney, without comment, stating that experts now declare the documents to be forgeries.

Indications therefore are that the investigation is due for early collapse, so far as Mexican activities are concerned, and that it may develop into a general round-up of those responsible for attempting to perpetrate a dangerous hoax upon William Randolph Hearst and the United States Government.—United Press.

JAPAN'S POLICY.

MODERATION TOWARD CHINA, SAYS ENVOY TO U.S.

New York City, Jan. 6. Addressing the Japanese Society of New York at its annual dinner, Ambassador Matsudaira declared that Japan's policy toward China consists of moderation and respect for Chinese interests and national aspirations.

"The policy of Japan," said the Ambassador, "is guided by a spirit of conciliation; and tempered by a genuine respect for China's independence and integrity."

"Our Government never has intended, and does not intend to carry out any policy of aggression toward China."

Ambassador Matsudaira explained that present negotiations with Chang Tso-lin are designed to solve pending questions of development of Japanese economic interests in Manchuria.—United Press.

IN THE WASH.

LOCAL CASE IN PRIVY COUNCIL.

ABOUT A BANK NOTE.

The strange adventures of a bank-note belonging to a Hong Kong woman were related to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council on Dec. 12. The note had been "mutilated" owing to the garment in which it was placed being washed and starched, portions having disappeared in this process.

Mrs. Lo Lee-shi, of Wellington Street, Victoria, Hong Kong, was given two 500-dollar notes by her husband, and put them in a pocket of an inner garment. Later she washed the garment without first extracting the two notes. She dried the garment and starched it, but when she came to iron it she noticed for the first time a lump in the pocket which contained the two notes. She took out the lump, and as she did so certain small portions adhered to the rough edge of the pocket, and these had not been recovered. She gave the lump to her husband, who took it to the Bank and explained what had happened. Certain portions of the lump were examined. The number of one of the two notes was identified, and this note was cashed without further question. Later the husband, having further manipulated the remaining contents of the lump, again attended at the Bank and presented portions of a note from which parts of the words "Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation" were missing and the number and date were indecipherable. This note the Bank refused to cash.

Bank's Contention.

The Hong Kong Court held that as the obliteration was caused by unintentional negligence on the part of Mrs. Lo Lee-shi the Bank were bound to honour the note, and gave judgment for \$500 and costs.

This decision was appealed against, the appellants submitting that the note was not duly presented to them, that certain pieces of paper were presented, but that they were in such a mutilated condition as to render proper identification as a bank note impossible, that the note presented was subsequently to its issue by them materially altered without the appellants' consent by the erasure, destruction, or obliteration of the number and date, that such alterations were due to the negligence of the respondent, and that such alterations within the meaning of Section 64 of the Bills of Exchange Ordinance, 1886, and that the note sued upon was in consequence void.

The appeal was dismissed with costs (one Judge dissenting), the Court affirming for reasons similar to those stated therein the judgment of the Court of first instance. It was in these circumstances that the present appeal came before the Judicial Committee.

Their Lordships reserved judgment.

GRANT IN FAMILY.

COOK SLAIN AT SEA.

EMPLOYERS' GENEROSITY.

Relatives of Ching Lee-shing, cook on board the British steamer "Tianjin" who was shot and killed on November 5, while the vessel was on the high seas from Swatow to Shanghai, will receive a compassionate grant of \$600 from the ship owners through their agents, Butterfield and Swire, it was disclosed following the acquittal of Seki Mohamed, Indian guard on board the "Tianjin," who was tried for murder before Judge Sir Peter Gurney and a jury of 12 in the British Supreme Court.

After the testimony of 15 witnesses for the prosecution was heard, Judge Gurney in his summing-up to the jury said in part: "Gentlemen, of the jury. As I constantly said in these cases, it is the duty of the Crown to satisfy you beyond a reasonable doubt that prisoner is guilty of the crime with which he is charged. What you have to consider in this case is, has the Crown done so? Would it be safe for you to find this man guilty of murder."

"Occasionally you have cases where a man says nothing. He goes before the police magistrate and says nothing and then comes before this court and launches out with a complicated defence. That is not the case here. The prisoner tells you what his story is and he has kept to it. He has never deviated in any way and practically said to-day exactly what he said before the magistrate and what he said before the Captain of the ship."

"If you come to the conclusion that prisoner thought that deceased was a pirate and that it was a pirate and that it was necessary for him to do something desperate to save himself and perhaps the ship, then you will find him not guilty. If you find that he was reckless and that there was not sufficient grounds for him to shoot the man, you can find him guilty of manslaughter. If you come to the conclusion that there was some reason that we do not know of and that there was what we call malice aforethought and that he deliberately killed his man with some other intention, you will find him guilty of murder. It is for the Crown to prove to you, beyond a reasonable doubt, as reasonable men, that this man did with malice aforethought, kill the deceased. Is it safe for you to do that with the facts before you? Gentlemen, consider your verdict."

The jury retired and returned shortly with a unanimous verdict of not guilty.

MALAYA.

IN THE BY-WAYS OF SUMATRA.

RAPID DEVELOPMENT.

The Dutch are rapidly making a great harbour out of the river mouth at Belawan, the Port Swettenham of Sumatra. The mangrove swamps are undergoing an incredibly swift transition into deepwater wharves, equipped with the best of modern cargo handling machinery, vast and up-to-date warehouses. . . . all day there is the crashing of the pile-drivers, the rattling and groning of busy dredgers. . . . "Swettenham" is lagging far behind. That is one's first impression of Dutch methods in the most northern of their great island colonies. Energy and efficiency, and enthusiasm, tempered by a certain lack of adaptability, which we ourselves suffer from to a lesser extent and the French not at all.

Everywhere the condition of men and their affairs presents a strong contrast in comparison with the counterpart part in Malaya. The latter is still a new and very vigorous young country. Sumatra is undergoing rapid development by European enterprise but her indigenous peoples, in the Eastern Residency, at least, have long since conquered and all but eliminated the jungle, and where, in the F.M.S., we have wide tracts of virgin forests, in Sumatra they have intensive and scientific cultivation, aided by the inestimable advantage of comparatively flat land—plains, downs, and uplands. The population is much more dense, the people poorer and far more industrious. Instead of a few big towns and scattered kampungs, they have a village every hundred yards. Rubber, padi, tobacco, tea, all are cultivated by the peasants themselves—one misses the immense imported labour forces that are so essential an adjunct to agriculture across the Straits. The village shops are Javanese or Batak owned, the hotels are staffed by them, the roads made and maintained by native labour. Almost everywhere, in fact, the alien is excluded or not encouraged.

And with all, the prevailing impression is of poverty and no great content. The highways bear few cars, motor-cycles or bicycles, not because their surface is poor, but because, one imagines, such luxuries are beyond the means of the wayfarers. Especially on the great coastal plain the huts of the inhabitants are poor, their owners often ragged, and the wretched little shops stock but the bare necessities of life. There is a certain squalidness foreign to Malaya, and the children play in the dust and dirt, squabbling with the dogs and pigs in a manner reminiscent of Burma or Southern India. Many of the women are unclothed above the waist, wearing but a dirty and the clank of golden anklets and sarong. The gleam of gay silks so familiar in Tanah Malaya are alike absent. It is, in fact, painfully evident that money is scarce. One hears many complaints of burdensome taxation, affecting all classes. Europeans maintain that they work five or six weeks a year for the benefit of the Government, the Asiatic does not seem to look upon the orang puteh in this matter with any means a favourable or friendly eye. But it is impossible to criticise the administration. Would the Malayan Governments continue to dispense with no kin royalty, and if their revenue from rubber were proportionately reduced? And would the Malays be quite so care-free and happy if it were necessary for them to toil from dawn till dark to provide for their personal needs as to satisfy the demands of the community, as crystallised in Government taxation?

Despite this apparent poverty, and alleged murmuring in men's hearts, there is, among the Bataks at least, a genuine anxiety to please and a cheerful willingness to serve that is almost pathetic, but which can, by no stretch of imagination, be considered as other than the result of sympathetic treatment by Dutch officials. The Dutchman, though, is very much the master—his is not addressed as "Tuan" but he is, not as "Tuan Besar," and he is, a fairly quite decisive in his dealings with those who serve him. In the hotels, for instance, the boys jump to serve one. They suffer under no illusions.

Rubber and Tea.

Beyond the tobacco plantations, with their huge windcreens of teak, in thickly sown groves, and the immense attap-walled drying sheds, lie the rubber estates, where there is every sign of skilled and careful cultivation. Many of the tree trunks are covered with a maze of signs and figures. Silt pitting is adopted on a scale unknown in Malaya, with a series of pits and ridges round almost every tree. Aluminium latex cups appear to be used universally. There is evidence of heavy, though far from reckless, tapping, a noteworthy feature being the big area of young rubber on most of the estates, indicating greatly increased crops in the near future—a sign of the time which the controllers of the industry intend.

Other intention, you will find him guilty of murder. It is for the Crown to prove to you, beyond a reasonable doubt, as reasonable men, that this man did with malice aforethought, kill the deceased. Is it safe for you to do that with the facts before you? Gentlemen, consider your verdict."

The jury retired and returned shortly with a unanimous verdict of not guilty.

dustry in Malaya may well ponder. The smokehouses are longer and lower and the factories, in nine cases out of ten, much bigger than ours, but the bungalows of the European managers are smaller and far less pretentious, although the gardens are usually artistically designed and blazing with conchoidal colours. The verandah of each bungalow is lighted by immense, gorgeously linked lampshades, and the houses are in their plan strikingly European; so much so that, amidst a group of them, one might well imagine oneself to be in the better class suburbs of Antwerp or Amsterdam.

Between Tobbing Tinggi and Siantar, lie many tea estates with thickly planted, closely pruned bushes, extending in series ranks far into the dim distance on either hand and interspersed with rolling downland. Siantar has a delightfully comfortable hotel, across the water, and excellently well furnished—when it is remembered that every chair, table, almirah, and bedstead, beyond a specified maximum, is taxed somewhat severely.

There are many British people at Siantar and the hotel seems to be used by them as a club, its reading-room being supplied with all the London Illustrated papers as well as German, French, and Swiss weeklies.

Toba Meer.

Forty-two kilometres over a mountain pass from Siantar lies Prapat, a dozen delightful little houses set amidst a wealth of flowers and wind-sprayed fountains, on a tiny headland jutting out into the turquoise beauty of Lake Toba. In a sheltered bay to the westward huddles the Batak village, with its crescent-roofed huts clustering among fruit and coconut trees and the great, dusty market-place in their midst. On every hand, and all round the sixty-mile long lake, tower the mountains, some of whose peaks nestle among the clouds a thousand metres above the breeze-ruffled waters. Little patches of forest shade the valleys but elsewhere there is neither bush nor tree, but only graceful waterfalls, one of which leaps from ledge to ledge of the world, as the Bataks call the great tableland encircling the lake, to the padi fields which slope down and down to the water's edge. The misty spray from the falls drifts like a veil of glistening lace over the gorges, painted by the sun as a score of rainbows. The moods of the Meer are as strange and capricious as those of any woman who knows that she is beautiful. In the chill dawn one may listen to the roar and hissing crash of the rollers among the shoreward rocks; at midday the water lies calm and still and grey, like a mirror of burning steel. At five o'clock the snowflakes melt upon a sea of ink. At even, calm follows in the wake of the passing sun and it is impossible not to rejoice in all but boundless field of cloth of gold, glittering radiantly azure amidst the mountain mists, which have stolen the silvery pinks of mother of pearl. It is at this hour, that translucent greens, scarlet, orange, and palest blue linger in astounding harmony upon a sky that at dawn was as black and chill as a pall.

Golfing and Cannibals.

Upon the lake, fifty miles long and ten broad, hundreds of little soft wood dugouts carry the Batak fishermen in wary search for the great shoals of goldfish that lurk the depths at dark and dawn to feed and roll and splash in lazy contentment in the weedy shallows. There, with net and spear, the sturdy little Bataks trap or stab at fast fleeing shadows with unerring skill.

The grandparents, and even the fathers and mothers of these men, possessed many appetites which are lost in these degenerate times. In the good old days, for example, "long pig" was accorded a prominent place on the menu as often as the capture of an obliging stranger or errant enemy would allow. All men fed the teeth (many of the elders of to-day are decorated in this engaging fashion), and as black a heathenism as the world has known ruled supreme. Then, not many years ago, German missionaries forced their way into what was indeed a far and perilous country and to-day the children of men who had developed a nice and epicurean judgment of human flesh are respected pillars of the Lutheran Church. On the mainland, "the pale Galilean has conquered" in very truth, though the great island of Samosir (larger than Singapore) in the midst of the lake it seems that the people in times of trouble turn to the Old Gods. A few months ago, it is said, an aged crone was killed and eaten by the wilder folk of a remote village, in order to propitiate the divine giver of rain. And rain it did so that the young padi sprang up and flourished exceedingly.

DIAMOND SMUGGLER

AN INTERNATIONAL RING DISCLOSED.

Washington, Jan. 6.

Operations of an international diamond smuggling ring were disclosed to-day to the customs sub-committee of the House Ways and Means Committee.

Information received by the sub-committee was to the effect that the smugglers had even insured deliveries of millions of dollars worth of gems which escaped imposition of the import tax.

It was said that the value of the smuggled gems has totalled \$400,000 a year.—United Press.

A NEW CAPITAL.

TRIALS OF A CITY IN THE MAKING.

LIFE IN CANBERRA.

Parliament is now in the middle of its first session at Canberra. At question time in the House of Representatives recently Mr. McGrath, the Labour member for Ballarat, Victoria, sarcastically inquired of the Prime Minister whether, in view of the frequency of complaints about the poor acoustics of Parliament House, poor telephone services, mud, and excessive expenditure on the Capital, he would recommend to the Cabinet the desirability of taking a referendum of the people of Australia to decide whether the construction of the Capital should not be abandoned. "The answer," gravely replied Mr. Bruce, "is in the negative, and is confirmed by the general appreciation of members and public servants of the conditions in their new home."

"General appreciation" may be an over-statement of the condition of mind of some new residents of Canberra, but undoubtedly the malcontents are in a minority. Mr. McGrath does not reflect the majority opinion of members of Parliament.

The prevailing discomforts are inseparable from the circumstance that Canberra is a skeleton city. Scattered over a great natural amphitheatre is a population of little more than 5,000, in an area which some day will house hundreds of thousands. Each of the many suburbs in time will have its own shipping and recreation centre. So far there is only one shopping centre at Eastlake. It is not unnatural that those who live nearly five miles away, at Ainslie for instance, should complain, especially in view of the intermittent character of the transport service. Canberra is like a picture in which only the high lights have been painted and the background remains to be supplied. So far the Capital has cost Australia more than \$3,000,000. Even after he has admitted the luxury of Parliament House and the fine administrative buildings and pretty homes built by the Federal Capital Commission, the visitor is impelled to ask where the money has gone. Then one day, miles away from the city, he will see a scarlet fire hydrant or a water pipe. There is the cue to the course of the expenditure. Essential services, such as water, sewerage, electric light and power, have been planned in advance for a great city and have absorbed millions.

A Sea of Mud.

Contemplation of the city-to-be, however, is cold comfort to those who have to put up with the discomforts of the city in the making. At the beginning of October nearly three inches of rain fell in four days, and unfinished roads and footpaths became a sea of mud. Motor-cars and omnibuses were bogged everywhere, and there was nothing for it but for Ministers and officials to wade through the mud to their offices. Each Federal Department is now represented at Canberra by a skeleton secretariat, and the transfer of complete Departments is proceeding as accommodation becomes available.

The Federal Territory is "dry." This fact and the fact that residents of the territory have no representation in the Federal Legislature have created two first-class political issues peculiar to the Territory. Ministers are considering the taking of a local option poll of residents of the Territory to decide whether the sale of liquor should be permitted. Parliament by resolution decided that the Parliamentary bar should not be opened until residents of the Territory had indicated their views.

To a disinterested observer the "dry" condition of the Territory seems to be a polite fiction. While liquor cannot be bought or sold in the Territory, it may be imported or drunk openly, even in the dining-rooms of the "dry" hotels controlled by the Federal Capital Commission. Quenbeyan, in New South Wales, the nearest "wet" town, is only nine miles away, and to it runs an efficient omnibus service. Since the building of Canberra proceeded in earnest, nearly every hotel in Quenbeyan has been enlarged or rebuilt. The evil of the "dry" law is that, as one result of it, liquor is imported into the Territory probably in larger quantities than would be required were it obtainable on the spot. Moreover, until the sale of liquor is permitted the Federal Capital Commission itself will be obliged to continue to conduct the hotels of the Capital, and at a substantial loss. Private enterprise will not undertake the management of unlicensed hotels.

Citizens' Grievances. The other purely local issue is that of the franchise. Citizens of Canberra pay Federal taxation—they will be exempt from the considerable State income-tax—but there are no ratepayers' privileges as they exist under ordinary municipal government, and there is no vote for the Federal Parliament. Even the people of the Northern

Territory elect a representative to the House of Representatives, though he is voteless. The Australian Native's Association is taking up this grievance in real earnest, and is organising a long series of meetings of protest with a view to forcing the Ministry to declare itself. It is difficult to imagine upon what good ground Parliamentary representation can be refused.

Under the purely bureaucratic control of the Federal Capital Commission the only incentive to the development of the Capital is that supplied by the Commission itself. Private enterprise is loth to participate until it is assured that investment is sound. The adoption of the leasehold system of land tenure as against freehold is undoubtedly a handicap to vigorous development. In supplying the incentive to development the Commission has become the autocrat of the Territory. Its word is law. If ever there is doubt that its word is law it passes an ordinance to remove the doubt. If the city is to become a city in the real sense of the term it will soon become too big for this sort of government. Control is too centralised and too tightly held by Government authority. Already the Commission is finding that it cannot monopolise everything, and it has accepted the tender of a private company for the right to conduct omnibuses and taxi-cab services, the service provided by the Commission having proved hopelessly inadequate.

Meanwhile the Commission pushes ahead with the development of the Capital plan. It proposes to ask Parliament to sanction a modified form of the original plan for a chain of lakes through the city. The modified plan provides for the construction of a dam on the Molonglo River near the Federal Government House, which will provide nearly four miles of water, sufficient for any aquatic sports gathering. It is building halls in the various suburbs for concerts and social functions and public meetings. It is laying down turf wickets for cricket, building large groups of tennis courts, making a new golf course, and planning the construction of swimming baths and pools along the river. Several schools have been opened in various centres, and tenders will be invited soon for the construction of the National Museum of Zoology and the permanent administrative building near Parliament House.

The Commission proposes to undertake the conduct of the city's milk supply and to restrict private enterprise to the wholesale supply of milk to a central depot. There the milk will be pasteurised and bottled for distribution on a block system. On the Molonglo River near the Royal Military College several blocks of land have been set aside for market gardeners, and some of these are already occupied by settlers bent on supplying the city with vegetables, which have at present to be imported. Poultry farmers have also been induced to settle a few miles out of the city area, but the Commission is reserving the right to forbid them to sell their produce outside the Territory.

Mr. Bruce has announced his intention of conferring with the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Charlton) regarding the provision of a new official residence for the Prime Minister. A house costing \$14,000 has just been completed, but the Prime Minister considers it unworthy of the office and inadequate to meet his social responsibilities. A new Federal Government House is also contemplated to replace the old Yarralumla home, which was hastily converted to receive the Duke and Duchess of York during their visit last May.

Finally, there is a Federal police force of ten men, which made its first appearance recently. The force's first task was to deal with a magpie nesting at Parliament House which had savagely attacked numerous passers-by, including several members of Parliament, who had to be treated at the hospital for facial wounds. The force, however, found itself in a dilemma, because the Federal Capital Commission has passed a firearms ordinance. Without the permission of the Commission the police found that they had no power to possess or to discharge firearms, so the vicious magpie had to be left unmolested.

Captain David Clark, whose death has occurred at Edinburgh, was marine superintendent of the Ben Line and joined the company in 1866. He became a shipmaster about 1898, and in this capacity sailed on the company's Eastern trade routes until he succeeded Captain John Potter about 20 years ago as marine superintendent.

A "witch" was recently arrested in Oporto and made to explain her trade to a magistrate. Among other things, she told the magistrate that she prepared a powder from horse-shoes, and asserted that if a wife scattered this powder on the path which her husband would have to tread when on his way to an amorous adventure he would immediately turn back and come home.

A WATER DIVINER.

HON. DR. FOXLEY NORRIS DISCOVERED HIS POWER.

AN ACCIDENT.

The Dean of Westminster, Dr. Foxley Norris, who recently wrote a letter on water divining by means of a forked twig, and believes it to be both useful and capable of development, in an interview with a representative of the "Evening Standard," said:

"I have practised it for over 30 years. I found that I could do it quite accidentally by borrowing the twig from a professional water-finder who was experimenting in a field at my old home."

"The twig moved strongly, to my great astonishment, in my hands; the professional tested the ground, and confirmed it: a well was sunk, and is still in regular use."

"But I am only an amateur, and have no scientific knowledge. Men who approach the subject from a scientific point of view (and who are not themselves water-finders) generally attribute it to involuntary muscular action."

"With all due respect, they are mistaken. I say this for two reasons—

(1) I have found water again and again in places where I had never been before and of which I knew nothing; and

(2) Over and over again the twig has broken itself in two with the force of the attraction, whatever it is, half an inch above my finger and thumb."

"This could not, I think, be effected by any muscular action of mine."

A Family of Diviners. "No—I do not profess to understand it, but years of experience during which I have never been proved wrong convince me that it is a very real thing."

"A good proportion of people possess the faculty—I should say probably 2 or 3 per cent. I once knew a family of two brothers and two sisters who could all do it, but neither the father nor the mother could."

"The depth and the volume? No, I cannot tell either—some professionals say they can. If so the practice at once becomes commercially more valuable."

Asked if he had ever experimented for commercial purposes, the Dean said—

"Yes, more than once. On one occasion I found water for a brick company—but I received no fee except gratitude."

"At York I detected the presence of water in an angle near the city walls. No one knew that there was any water there, but an examination of an old plan of the Archbishop's pleasure grounds of long ago, showed his fishpond exactly in that place."

"No doubt the springs are still there, though the pond has long ago been filled up."

A Friend's Challenge. "On another occasion a friend challenged me, before a dozen guests, to find a well that his father had long ago filled in. The spring, he said, was still strong."

"He thought he knew where it was. I proved at once that he was wrong by more than 50 yards, and was able to establish my contention by tracing the water for a quarter of a mile to the point where it flowed into a pond."

"I had never been in those fields before in my life."

"I believe any sort of twig will do. I have used all sorts—apple, hazel, rhododendron—anything that was handy: sometimes even coarse grass. Hazel is used, I believe, because it grows in convenient forms."

"I hold it between thumb and finger, because more than once I have had the skin of the palm of my hand scratched by the wriggling twig when held in the ordinary way. Sir William Barrett who accompanied me in some experiments, was much interested when he once saw the twig break above my hand. I do not profess to understand it."

HONG KONG HOTEL VISITORS.

January 17, 1928.

Messrs. Geo. M. Allen, G. Appelbaum, Geo. S. Aveyard.

Messrs. G. A. Palham Browne, R. J. Birbeck, N. C. Berry, Leo A. Block, Mr. and Mrs. H. Birckett.

Mr. E. J. Carmichael, Mr. and Mrs. P. Courtney.

Mr. J. M. Dalgarino.

Mr. J. U. Finch.

Messrs. R. D. Gillespie, N. P. Gadjew, Miss A. M. Grant.

Messrs. M. B. Hoare, A. F. Henry, C. E. Harsman, Fred. A. Hill, J. E. Hibbert, E. Hunt, Capt. T. P. Hall.

Mr. and Mrs. D. Hann, Mr. and Mrs. L. V. Harrie, Dr. and Mrs. E. Hafter, Mrs. Hamilton.

Miss K. Ingles.

Mr. J. E. Joseph.

Messrs. A. H. Kutechbach, H. A. Keller.

Miss H. Lillie, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Lockyer.

Mr. J. W. Moss.

Mr. G. L. de Negri.

Miss Osborne.

Messrs. H. G. Pullen, H. S. Prophet, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Priestley.

Mr. A. U. Reid.

Mr. O. G. Steen, Dr. and Mrs. G. Sheahan, Masters, W. and V. Sheahan.

Mr. Wragge.

Mr. E. Zourmoff.

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MALARIA RESEARCH.

INCREASING INCIDENCE OF
DISEASE.

PREVENTATIVE MEASURES.

The following resolution regarding the control and prevention of malaria, passed by the Malaria Section of the Congress, was confirmed by the meeting of the Far Eastern Association of Tropical Medicine.

The Malaria Section of the 7th Congress of the Far Eastern Association of Tropical Medicine are aware of many instances of a great increase in the incidence of malaria caused by the facilities given to mosquito reproduction by engineering works either during construction or afterwards due to the different conditions brought about. This Congress is of the opinion that plans for railways, canals, harbours and all similar engineering works likely to affect the conditions producing malaria should be submitted to the proper Public Health Authorities and their Sanitary Engineers before being sanctioned by Governments.

Need For Research.
As it has been represented that differences of opinion regarding the best method of controlling malaria sometimes cause doubt in the public mind and so may hamper the progress of anti-malaria work, this Congress takes the present opportunity to emphasize the fact that there is no single method of malaria control applicable to all conditions and all countries.

Nevertheless they consider that for towns, mines, plantations, large public works and similar aggregations of people, the control of the breeding places of the malaria-carrying species of mosquito is a method which should be employed whatever other anti-malaria measures are put into force. Whenever possible this control should be effected by permanent works which eliminate entirely the sources of mosquito breeding.

For wide rural areas, specially those with scanty, poverty-stricken populations, the first step in the control of malaria is adequate research so that the conditions present may be ascertained and the best methods of control under the particular circumstances ascertained as a result of such research.

Prevention.
Methods of prevention may here be of great variety and include drainage, flooding, jungle-clearing, the promotion of agriculture, improvement of housing and the general economic condition, education,

LOST MEMORY.

SWEDEN'S LIFE AS A BRITISH
OFFICER.

SEQUEL TO MINE EXPLOSION.

A Swede who lost his memory has now revealed his identity. He is a former mining engineer, Mr. C. G. N. Duner, a son of the late Professor N. C. Duner, of Upsala.

He participated in the war on the British side, and was reported killed on the western front. He states that at the end of 1916 he was in Flanders in a dug-out with 14 or 15 other officers, playing bridge, when someone suddenly cried: "Get out. An explosion." They all got up, and Duner got hold of a tunic and threw it over himself. Then a German mine burst, and everybody was killed except Duner, who was hurled into the air amid a shower of earth and rendered unconscious.

He spent some time in hospital in England, but on his recovery could not remember his own identity. In the tunic which he wore there were, however, various papers with the name of "Colonel M." and Duner was supposed to be that colonel.

Duner does not recall how his life shaped itself as Colonel M., for whom there were no inquiries, but by degrees his memory returned, and when he came across some Swedish papers, and was able to read them, he concluded that he must be a Swedish officer and not British.

Then in a Swedish State hand-book he found a name that appeared familiar to him, wrote to the owner of the name, and found it was his own brother. His return to Stockholm followed.

General Sir J. F. Noel Birch, Colonel-Commandant R.A., has been appointed a Knight Grand Cross of the British Empire Order (Military Division).

etc., of the people. The systematic killing of infected adult mosquitoes, screening the use of anti-malarial drugs and a host of special methods have each also to be considered in their proper application.

The Congress desires to stress the need not only of thoroughly trained malaria Research Officers but of expert Malarial Engineers in whichever type of malaria prevention is at stake.

The meeting also decided that the Congress should be held triennially instead of biennially.

AMERICAN WOMEN.

WINNING PRAISE IN
FRANCE.

A LOYAL DEFENDER.

Paris, Dec. 24.

American women have found a loyal defender in a scion of one of France's greatest and oldest of noble families, Count Stanislaus de la Rochefoucauld, whose other claim to renown is that he is the husband of one of France's most attractive actresses, Alice Cocca.

Count Stanislaus declares that in a quarter of a century American women marrying into old French families have modified the physiognomy of Paris and changed his pleasures from indoor to outdoor sports. They have sent Paris society from overcrowded gilded ballrooms into the cabarets and centres of night life.

"American women really shun the society of present day Paris," Count Stanislaus wrote in a criticism of society which turns out to be a glorification of American women.

"They have caused the demi-mondaines to practically disappear. The grandiose receptions of our fathers' days have given way to mad dashes around Paris at night, from one cabaret to another. Conversation has given way to the rhythm of music.

"American women were made for that life. They are pals of speed. Her lack of intellectual gifts is made up by her snobism, by her opinion of herself. She is her own best press agent.

"Nature has favoured her. Her body is remarkable by the breadth of shoulders, the great flat expanse of chest, the length and fine lines of her limbs. We are far from the women of Louis XV. The American has made it actually indecent for a woman to possess round lines and fleshy limbs.

"In her toilette she is extremely simple and possesses excellent taste. She leaves the amulets and glass necklace to her Oriental sisters. When an American woman starts to load herself with jewellery, it's a sure sign that she is getting old. European women must copy them or lose out in life."—United Press.

In a collision at the mouth of the Mersey between the Liverpool steamer "Zealand" (1,718 tons) and "Ravens Point" (1,787 tons), Walter Stapleton, a fireman, of the Zealand, was drowned, and Gordon Rennie, Thomas Carnell, and William Arnold, all of the Zealand, were injured.

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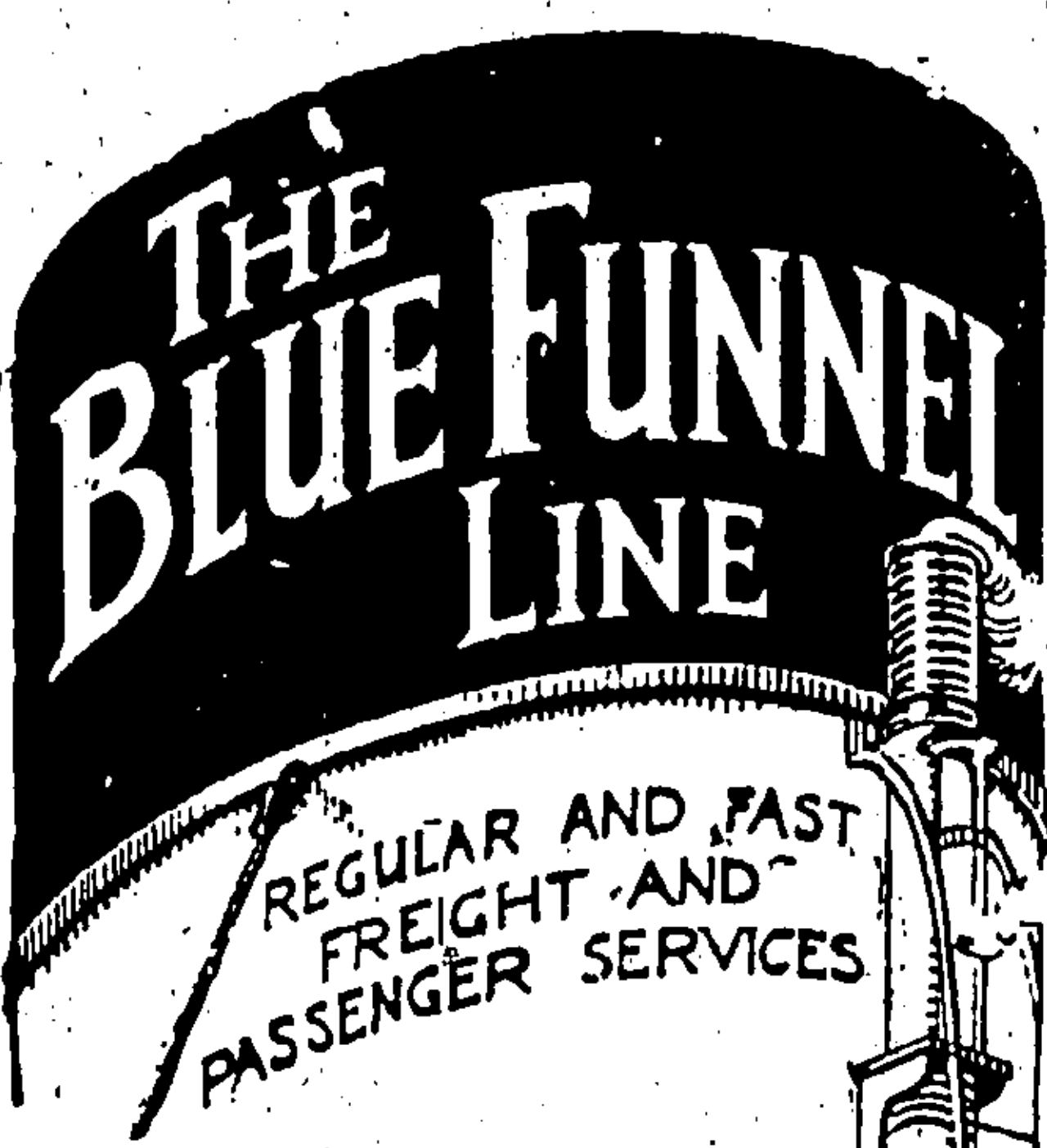
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INVITE INFORMATION FOR THE

1928 ISSUE

OF THE

DOLLAR DIRECTORY.



LONDON SERVICE.

"ANTENOR" 25th Jan. Marseilles, London, Rotterdam & Glasgow
"PERSEUS" 26th Feb. Marseilles, London, Rotterdam & Hamburg
"HECTER" 22nd Feb. Marseilles, London, Rotterdam & Glasgow
"GLAUCOS" 5th Mar. Marseilles, London, Rotterdam & Hamburg
* via Casablanca.

LIVERPOOL SERVICE.

"CYCLOPS" 20th Jan. Genoa, Havre, Liverpool & Glasgow
"MENTOR" 20th Feb. Genoa, Havre, Liverpool & Glasgow
"ACHILLES" 5th Mar. Havre, Liverpool & Glasgow
"POLYPHEMUS" 1st Apr. Genoa, Havre, Liverpool & Glasgow

PACIFIC SERVICE.

"KORE & YOKOHAMA" 28th Jan. Victoria, Vancouver & Seattle
"PROTEUS" 18th Feb. Victoria, Vancouver & Seattle
"TALITHYRUS" 18th Feb. Victoria, Vancouver & Seattle

NEW YORK SERVICE.

"LYCAON" 9th Mar. New York, Boston & Baltimore
"RHESUS" 6th Apr. New York, Boston & Baltimore

PASSENGER SERVICE.

"ANTENOR" 25th Jan. Singapore, Marseilles & London
"HECTER" 22nd Feb. Singapore, Marseilles & London
"ACHILLES" 5th Mar. Singapore, Marseilles & London
"SARPEDON" 18th Apr. Singapore, Marseilles & London
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Holders of Wireless Receiving Station Licences are reminded that their Licences for the year 1928 are due for renewal before the 15th instant. Fee \$5.00 per annum.

"On and after January 4, Radio telegrams will be accepted at the Radio Counter, 1st floor Government Building for transmission to all offices in British North Borneo at the rate of 40 cents per word."

INWARD MAILS.

From	Per	
Australia & Manila	19	Mishima Maru.
Canada, U.S.A., Japan, Shanghai & Europe		Emp. of Canada.
via Siberia		Luchow.
Shanghai	20	
Japan & Shanghai	20	Devanha.
Straits	20	Takada.
Saigon	21	D'Artagn.
Europe via Suez (letters & papers, London		Khyber.
22nd Dec., 1927)	23	
Straits	23	Aluta Maru.
U.S.A., Canada, Japan & Shanghai		Pres. Cleveland.
Manila	24	Pres. Lincoln.
Shanghai	24	
U.S.A., Honolulu, Japan & Shanghai	27	Tenyo Maru.
Japan & Shanghai	27	Haruna Maru.

OUTWARD MAILS.

For	Per	
Samshui & Wuchow	18	Kong Ning 4.30 p.m.
Amoy	18	Shantung 4.30 p.m.
Swatow	19	Hydrangea 2.30 p.m.
Manila & Parcels for German via		Hai Ning 5 p.m.
Hamburg	20	
FRIDAY, JANUARY 20		
Hohow & Haiphong	20	Newchwang 8.30 a.m.
Japan	20	Mishima Maru 9.30 a.m.
Saigon	20	Haidis 10.30 a.m.
Shanghai & Japan	20	D'Artagnan 12.30 p.m.
Manila	20	Emp. of Canada 3.30 p.m.
Samshui & Wuchow	20	Tai Ming 4.30 p.m.
Shanghai & Europe via Siberia		Suiyang 5 p.m.
Straits, Ceylon, India, Mauritius,		
E. & S. Africa, Egypt & Europe		
via Marseilles—due Marseilles,		
18th Feb. K.P.O.—Parcels 4.30		
a.m. Letters 10 a.m. G.P.O.—		
Parcels (20th Jan) 5 p.m. Reg-		
istration (21st Jan) 9.45 a.m.		
Letters 10.30 a.m.	Devanha.	21
Shanghai, Japan & Europe via		
Siberia	Khyber	5 p.m.
Amoy	Takada	5 p.m.
Shanghai	Linan	9 a.m.
Manila	Pres. Cleveland	9 a.m.
Swatow, Amoy & Formosa	Keljo Maru	9 a.m.
FRIDAY, JANUARY 21		
Shanghai	Atsuta Maru	9 a.m.
Swatow	Yat Shing	9 a.m.
Shanghai	*Japan, *Canada,	
*U.S.A., *C. & *S. America &		
*Europe via Victoria, B.C.—due		
Victoria, B.C., 18th Feb. Parcels		
10 a.m. Registration 11.15 a.m.		
Letters Noon	Pres. Lincoln.	

*Correspondence bearing vessel's name only.

STROKE OF GENIUS.

President Coolidge In Havana.

GOODWILL INFECTIONS.

An "Unusually Ardent Plea For Friendship."

London, Yesterday. The newspapers comment rather upon what President Coolidge left out than what he included in his speech at Havana. For instance the "Daily News" says that he "omitted the chief characters of an otherwise excellent performance, said a good deal about Columbus but nothing about Nicaragua and Mexico."—Reuter.

Economic Unions.

Paris, Yesterday. European economic unions are urged by the newspapers commenting on President Coolidge's speech at Havana.

The "Petit Journal" says that if Europe wants to live, it must be capable of formulating and obtaining respect for their own Monroe doctrine within the framework of engagements undertaken at Geneva.

M. Pertinax, writing in "Le Matin," says that the President's speech is worthy of a baptist chapel than a diplomatic gathering.—Reuter.

Arms Wide Open!

New York, Yesterday. President Coolidge's visit to Havana in person seems to have been a stroke of genius. Even the Opposition Press here is conscious of the goodwill evoked by the President's presence and which infected the Conference. The "Times" says: that not since the days of Henry Clay has the United States appeared before Central and South American Republics with arms thus wide open.

The "World" refers to President Coolidge's address as an "unusually ardent plea for friendship and understanding, and the "Herald-Tribune" is of opinion that the sincerity of the President's presentation of the American attitude is unmistakable.—Reuter's American Service.

Havana, Yesterday. President Coolidge and Mrs. Coolidge, accompanied by Mr. F. B. Kellogg and Mr. Wilbur, left for Key West—this morning on board the cruiser "Memphis" en route to Washington.—Reuter's American Service.

OLDD AGE PENSIONS.

TEN SHILLINGS A WEEK AT 65.

460,000 CLAIMS.

Rugby, Yesterday. The new section of the contributory pensions scheme, whereby persons become eligible for the old age pension of ten shillings a week at the age of 65, instead of 70 as hitherto, has now been in operation for a fortnight. The estimate of the Government actuary, when legislation providing for the new pensions was being passed, was that 466,000 persons of both sexes would be entitled to them. This figure will prove to be very accurate for 460,000 claims have already been admitted, and there remain 10,000 claims which present some difficulty and have still to be decided.—British Wireless Service.

IDLE LIST.

SOME VIOLET FLUCTUATIONS REPORT.

DECREASE LAST WEEK.

Rugby, Yesterday. Unemployment continues to show violent fluctuations. The latest weekly return shows that the unemployed on January 9, totalled 1,232,100. This was 14,203 fewer than the week before, when there was an increase of 232,000 as a result of the discharge of workers who had been employed in the Christmas trade. As compared with the same time last year the latest return shows a decrease of 195,914.—Reuter.

END AT LAST.

R.A.T. STRIKE IN SHANGHAI.

Shanghai Yesterday. The strike of 8,000 of the British-American Tobacco Co.'s employees at Shanghai, which began on September 30, has ended.—Reuter.

U.S. NAVY.

Action of Committee Condemned.

BILING COMMENT.

"Reckless, Prodigal, And Wicket Affront."

New York, Yesterday. The "New York World" denounces the action of the Naval Committee of the House of Representatives for striking out from the Navy Bill provision to empower the President to suspend the programme, as the eventualities in which President Coolidge proposed to use the power was the possible convocation of an International Naval Limitation Conference.

The "World" says that if the Bill passed so modified and President Coolidge signs it, Congress will be placed in an attitude of seeking to bind the action of future Congresses regardless as to how international skies may brighten for peace-lovers. The United States should show displeasure at this proposal so clearly that Congress will not dare to enter upon so reckless, prodigal and wicked an affront to foreign nations.—Reuter's American Service.

Establish Parity First.

New York, Yesterday. The "Herald-Tribune," commenting on the decisions of the Naval Committee of the House of Representatives in regard to new warships, says that it will be time to consider suspending construction after America has established parity and is in a strategic position to do so.—Reuter's American Service.

BRITISH NAVY.

ONLY TWO CRUISERS IN NEW PROGRAMME.

A PRESS FORECAST.

London, Tuesday. The "Shipping World" understands that the British Naval programme for 1928-29 will include only two cruisers, also nine destroyers and six submarines.

The Cabinet's decision that only three cruisers will be begun in two years instead of the six stipulated in the five years' programme was accepted by the Government three years ago will result in a saving of \$6,000,000 in the next four years.

The Cabinet's new decision means that only two 8,000 ton cruisers will be laid down in 1928 instead of three.—Reuter.

BARREN ISLES.

LICENCE FOR NORWEGIAN COMPANY.

WHALES & GUANCE.

Rugby, Yesterday. The Colonial Secretary announces that Johan Rasmussen and Co. of Sandeford, Norway, are being granted an exclusive licence to occupy certain islands belonging to His Majesty named Bouvet Island and Thompson Island.

The islands in question are uninhabited and situated in the South Atlantic Ocean in or about the latitude of 54 degrees 26 minutes South, longitude 3 degrees 4 minutes East.

The licence permits the company to take and treat whales in the territorial waters of the islands and remove guano subject, inter alia, to a payment of a yearly rent for the islands and royalties on whale oil and guano exported. The licence is for a term of ten years.—British Wireless Service.

MINE DISASTER.

NINE MEN ENTOMBED AT LEHIGH.

SHAFT COLLAPSES.

Shepton, Pennsylvania, Yesterday. Nine men are entombed 400 feet underground at the Lehigh Valley Coal Co.'s mine, through a shaft collapsing.

Tappings by the buried men have been heard, but the rescuers fear that it will take days to reach them.—Reuter's American Service.

Nine Rescued.

Shepton, later. Nine of the entombed men have been rescued.—Reuter.

TO-DAY'S DOLLAR.

The closing rate of the dollar on demand, to-day was 2/0 5/16.

LAST THROW.

Crisis In The Cotton Industry.

DEADWEIGHT OF DEBT.

Extension Of Hours Opposed By Workers.

London, Yesterday. The Cotton Spinners and Manufacturers reports are strongly condemned in a "Times" leader, the opinion being expressed that the proposed extension of hours is "like the last desperate throw by a frenzied gambler." The newspaper says that what is needed is a cheapening of the present volume of output by concentration and production in the more efficient mills and by a drastic reduction of the number of independent firms and the cutting away of the deadweight of debt. It urges closer co-operation of the various sections of industry.—Reuter.

A Great Concerted Effort.

London, Yesterday. A great concerted effort to remedy the grave depression in the Lancashire cotton industry began in Manchester to-day when 40 representatives of the employers and 100 representatives of 500,000 workers jointly and privately considered the proposals to reduce the costs of production framed by the employers' Associations, including 12 1/2 per cent. reduction in wages, an increase in the working hours from 48 to 52 1/2 weekly, the reorganisation of finances of companies overcapitalised as the result of the post-war boom, a reduction in taxation and finishing charges.

The workers already had clearly indicated that they strongly opposed the wages and hours proposals. Their attitude has received the weighty support of the Press, which expresses the opinion that a thorough reconstruction of the industry, the elimination of weaker mills, and the exclusion of deadweight debt are essential.—Reuter.

Workers' Plea.

London, later. After the conference Mr. Bell, Secretary of the United Textile Factory Workers' Association, stated that they give the employers to understand that in no circumstances could they agree to consider the recommendation for increased hours and decreased wages, but they were prepared to co-operate in any effort to improve trade. They asked the employers seriously to consider the elimination of the proposals in regard to hours and wages, and jointly requested the Government to establish a statutory Committee with full powers to enquire into all factors of the cost of production.

The conference adjourned to February 3.—Reuter.

BATTLE IN SYRIA.

REBELLIONS TRIBESMEN'S HEAVY DEFEAT.

ITALIAN OPERATIONS.

Rome, Yesterday. As the result of Italian military operations the Cyrenaica region of Eastern Syria has been completely occupied and organised militarily, thus ensuring the territorial union of the two colonies of Benghazi and Tripoli.

The rebellious Mogarba tribesmen were driven southward in disorder, leaving 100 dead, 400 prisoners, many thousands of sheep and camels, and much other property.

The Italian air force participated in the operations, which the Italians had nine killed and 14 wounded.—Reuter.

TROTSKY'S FATE.

INDIFFERENT TO HIS EXILE.

FAITH IN COMMUNISM.

Berlin, Yesterday. The "Berliner Tageblatt's" correspondent in Moscow says that Trotsky has left for Wjerry. Interviewed before his departure he appeared indifferent to his personal fate. He said that a world revolution was now progressing for the first time since 1923. He predicted a general movement in various countries in Europe toward social democracy, which Communism would finally gain. He was uncertain whether a Labour Government in Britain with Liberal tendencies would desire closer relations with Russia or make a concession to the Soviet.—Reuter.

Who Fired The Fatal Shot?

Eugene Cassenas, the devil-may-care favourite of fortune had been murdered. Six people had each been heard to threaten him with death. Who fired the fatal shot? Unravel this strange mystery in the best detective film of the season!

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